Entertainment / A2-3

Pitt and Jolie: No, they haven't

■ Lifestyle / E1

Sexual harassment in the skies

■ Magazine / Q1

Chiz the whiz takes aim at the Upper House

■ Lifestyle / C1

Queer eye for the straight Pinoy

JOB Market

Where you find the best

Turn in 'jueteng' lord by texting PNP 2920

ISUMBONG NYO SA TEXT ANG MGA 'NAK NG JUETENG!

By Norman Bordadora

TEXTERS, do your thing.

A day after declaring that "jueteng" had been virtually wiped out in Luzon, the Philippine National Police announced

TURN/ A8

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER Sunday

BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

Inquirer columnist cited for best opinion writing

By Stella Gonzales

INQUIRER columnist Juan Mercado won honorable mention for Best Opinion Writing in category B—the award for local newspapers or small magazines—in the Society of Publishers in Asia (Sopa) 2005 Editorial Excellence Awards held Thursday in Hong Kong.

INQUIRER/ A9

email: feedback@inquirer.com.ph

Sunday, May 29, 2005 ★★ ~~106~~ 98 pages 13 sections Vol. 19 No. 170 P18

Lapid to pursue 'jueteng' inquiry

Senator to invite Mike Arroyo if implicated

By Juliet Labog-Javellana and Armand N. Nocum

AFTER batting for the scrapping of the joint Senate investigation on "jueteng," Sen. Manuel "Lito" Lapid yesterday said the inquiry would start tomorrow as scheduled.

"*Tuloy-tuloy na yan* (It will be pursued)," Lapid told the INQUIRER by phone. The neophyte senator also said President Macapagal-Arroyo's husband, Jose Miguel "Mike" Arroyo, would be invited if he should be linked to the illegal numbers game by a witness.

Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. called on Interior Secretary Angelo Reyes not to allow local officials implicated in jueteng to leave the country, including Batangas Gov. Armando Sanchez, who is reportedly preparing to leave for abroad in the first week of June.

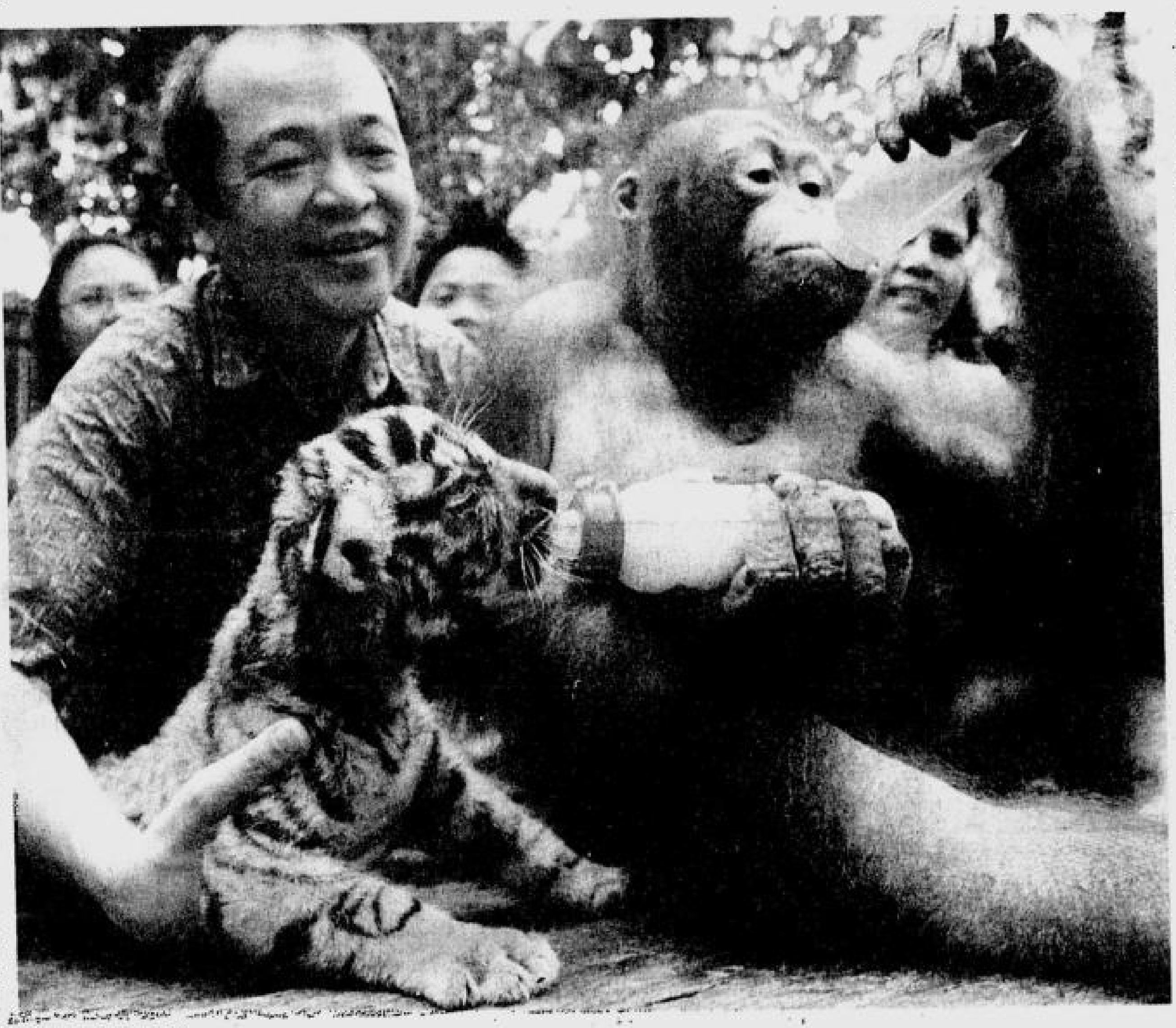
Pimentel warned senators and congressmen that scrapping their respective investigations on jueteng would be seen by the people as an act of conspiring with Malacañang in a cover-up.

Lapid said that while his position was that any accusation of jueteng payola should be brought before the courts and not to the Senate, the joint inquiry would proceed.

He said he did not want to insist on his position because he would be accused of trying to protect certain people.

Lapid had earlier backed the call of Sen. Miriam Defensor-Santiago for the Senate to leave the

LAPID / A8



NATURE BABY

As a prelude to World Environment Day on June 5, Malabon Zoo owner Manny Tangco presents a tiger cub named Batista to delighted visitors. Batista is being bottle-fed by an orangutan named Pacquiao, who is taking the occasion to enjoy a drink of his own. JOAN BONDOC

ARCHBISHOP Oscar Cruz is the most visible Church leader today, upstaging El Shaddai's Mike Velarde. EV ESPIRITU

Anti-'jueteng' archbishop tries to fill Sin's shoes

By Christian V. Esguerra

BARELY two years after the retirement of Manila Archbishop Jaime Cardinal Sin, the Philippine Catholic Church may have found an able replacement.

Meet Archbishop Oscar Cruz of Lingayen-Dagupan, 70, the man who single-handedly revived the "jueteng" issue, and who has taken President Macapagal-Arroyo to task for the unabated nationwide proliferation of the illegal numbers game.

People have compared Cruz to the former Manila archbishop: They're both fierce and outspoken, candid and all-business. Like Sin, Cruz has no qualms about hitting the rich and the powerful.

"All I have is the truth—nothing more, nothing less," Cruz told the INQUIRER in an interview.

While the Catholic Church has become increasingly quiet since Sin retired in 2002, Cruz has become aggressively loud, particularly on one issue: gambling.

ANTI-'JUETENG'/ A6

DISCRIMINATION

US group rejects Filipino ma of GI killed in action

WHITE PLAINS, New York—Everyone agrees that Ligaya Lagman is a Gold Star mother, part of the long line of mournful women whose sons or daughters gave their lives for the United States.

Ligaya's 27-year-old son, Army Staff Sgt. Anthony Lagman, was killed last year in Afghanistan when his unit came under fire during a mission to drive out remnants of Taliban and al-Qaida forces.

But the largest organization of these women, the American Gold Star Mothers Inc., has rejected Ligaya, a Filipino, for membership. The group's reason: Although Ligaya is a permanent US resident and taxpayer and has lived in the United States for more than 20 years, she is not a US citizen.

Several New York politicians and some past leaders of the mothers organization have come to Ligaya's support, calling for a rule change.

New York Gov. George Pataki on Friday wrote to the organization's current president, Ann Herd, saying her group should "review its policies on membership in the interest of fairness and in recognition of the fact that service in defense of American freedom should be the paramount factor in determining eligibility."

Congressman Eliot Engel, who represents an adjoining district, said the group should change its rules immediately.

"Whatever the excuse, American Gold Star Mothers' decision smacks of xenophobia and is in stark contrast to what Mrs. Lagman's son fought and died for," Engel said.

Sen. Hillary Rodham Clinton said, "We now have many noncitizens serving honorably in our armed services, and I hope that this can be satisfactorily resolved."

A past president of the mothers' group, Dorothy Oxendine, said, "There's no discrimination in a national cemetery. There's no discrimination when they get killed side by side. So how can we discriminate against a mother?"

Ligaya's other son, Chris Lagman, said his mother had been at her husband's hospital bedside in recent days following a cancer operation and had not focused on the Gold Star controversy.

Chris said his mother may not make it to a Memorial Day ceremony at which the veterans planned to present her with a gold star on a necklace.

Chris said his mother told him on Friday "she's not going to push the gold star thing anymore. She feels not welcomed. But it should still be changed because it's for the better."

Ligaya's application was initiated by Ben Spadaro, a veteran from Yonkers, who said he

US GROUP/ A6

DRESSED in mourning clothes, Ligaya Lagman accepts a posthumous award for her son, S/Sgt. Anthony Lagman, during a service in Yonkers, New York, on May 20. AP

Report of 2 stragglers downplayed

GENERAL SANTOS CITY—Japanese diplomats yesterday said they had reestablished contact with a mediator who promised to bring two elderly Japanese soldiers down from the mountains near this port city where they may have been in hiding, unaware that World War II ended 60 years ago.

"We have had several telephone conversations with him since Friday," Japanese Embassy press attaché Shuhei Ogawa told reporters, referring to the mediator, a Japanese trader who only gave his name as Asano.

"We are working out a plan to deal with this issue," said Ogawa, even as he downplayed reports that the two old soldiers may be the first cases in 30 years of wartime stragglers being found.

"You must understand that we get these reports all the time," Ogawa said in an impromptu press conference.

He said Asano had asked for more time due to poor security in the mountains and concerns about the throng of media waiting in General Santos City.

"It's enough evidence if he would bring to us the two stragglers. Our contact called us to finalize everything. Nothing is sure yet. We are still working it out," Ogawa said.

Hundreds of journalists, mostly from Japanese television networks and newspapers, have descended on this Mindanao

REPORT/ A9

WEATHER FORECAST

FORECAST: Northern and Central Luzon will experience cloudy skies with rainshowers and isolated thunderstorms. Mindanao including Palawan will experience mostly cloudy skies with scattered rainshowers and thunderstorms.

SOURCE: PAGASA

COMPILED BY: CHONA GALANG, PDI RESEARCH/05/29/05

Metro Manila	Partly Cloudy	Iloilo/Bacolod	Partly Cloudy
Baguio	Cloudy with Rains	Roxas	Partly Cloudy
Tuguegarao	Cloudy with Rains	Cebu	Partly Cloudy
Laoag	Cloudy with Rains	Tacloban	Partly Cloudy
Clark Zone	Cloudy with Rains	Gen. Santos	Cloudy with Rains
Tagaytay	Partly Cloudy	Zamboanga	Cloudy with Rains
Legazpi	Partly Cloudy	Cagayan de Oro	Cloudy with Rains
Calapan	Partly Cloudy	Davao	Cloudy with Rains

Second FRONT PAGE

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Gov't lawyers set to defend VAT law

By Christine O. Avendaño and Philip C. Tubeza

MALACAÑANG yesterday shrugged off the plan of opposition senators to challenge the expanded Value-Added Tax (VAT) Law before the Supreme Court next week, saying its lawyers were ready to defend the newly signed piece of legislation.

"There is absolutely no doubt in our minds that the VAT measure is legal and constitutional," said Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye yesterday.

On Friday, Senate Minority Leader Aquilino Pimentel Jr. had said opposition senators would question the constitutionality of the new VAT law, particularly its undue delegation of powers to the President.

Pimentel was referring to the provision in the law that grants President Macapagal-Arroyo standby authority to raise the VAT rate to 12 percent in January next year under certain conditions.

The law, which was signed by Ms Arroyo early last week, retains the VAT rate at 10 percent but gives the President the discretion to raise it to 12 percent beginning next year.

According to Pimentel, the power to raise taxes like the VAT was vested only in Congress and could not be delegated to the President.

In a statement, Bunye emphasized that the measure underwent "rigorous and tight scrutiny in the House and the Senate," a line always used by Palace officials in defending the VAT law.

"Be that as it may, government lawyers are prepared to defend the VAT before the high court," Bunye said.

At the House of Representatives, the chair of the House ways and means committee also expressed confidence the Supreme Court would uphold the constitutionality of the VAT law.

Tarlac Rep. Jesli Lapus said that, contrary to the opposition's claim, the law's provision granting the President standby power to raise the VAT rate was "not an abandonment of the legislative powers to fix tax rates."

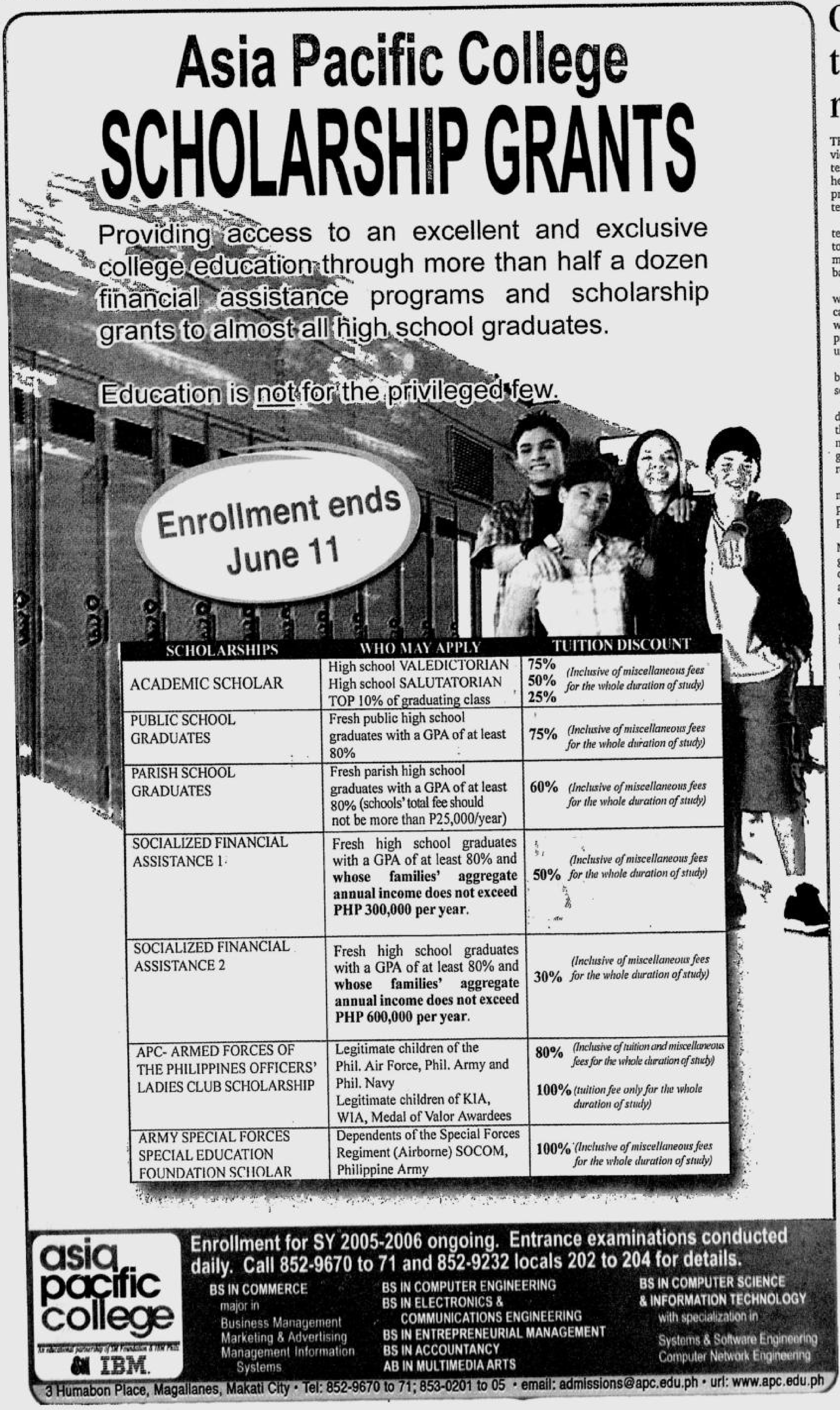
"It went through meticulous hearings and debates, and exhaustive discourse among legislators. The standby power issue in question in fact was the focus of debates prior to its ratification," Lapus said.

He explained that the standby power provision contained "a clear definition of how the President's standby authority can be exercised.

"Certain standards or conditions have been provided to allow her to use her standby power to hike the VAT rate. The use of standby authority is not automatic but conditional," he said.

Lapus said he was hopeful the Supreme Court would "expeditiously" resolve the planned opposition petition to put to rest all issues against the law and allow its smooth implementation "to generate more needed revenues for the government."

"The VAT law is the cornerstone of the government's fiscal reforms program. Its enactment has already generated positive effects on the economy, including a stable outlook given by Fitch Ratings a World Bank promise of more than $2 billion in loans and investments over the next three fiscal years beginning in July, if the Arroyo government succeeds in implementing its fiscal reforms," Lapus said.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Censors chief takes back review order

THE HEAD of the Movie and Television Review and Classification Board (MTRCB) yesterday backed down after protesters assailed her memorandum requiring prior state approval of public affairs programs shown on television.

MTRCB chair Ma. Consoliza Laguardia yesterday modified her May 17 order that legislators and journalists had denounced as tantamount to muzzling the media and a throwback to the Marcos dictatorship.

In the modified memo that Laguardia wrote by hand and which she faxed to Malacañang, the censors chief said the board would now only conduct a review of these programs after they had been aired and only under certain conditions.

She said MTRCB Circular No. 07-05 had been modified "in view of the clarification sought by the television industry."

The May 17 memo, citing a Supreme Court decision and Presidential Decree 1986, said that all public affairs programs, news documentaries, socio-political editorials and programs of the same category were subject to review by the MTRCB.

It advised television networks to "submit materials of the aforementioned television programs to the board for review and approval prior to telecast."

With the modification, Laguardia said the MTRCB would review public affairs programs, "especially live shows, after their telecast but only after a complaint had been made against the show or the board monitors a possible violation."

In a phone interview, Laguardia explained that the board had no intention of suppressing freedom of expression.

She said the original memo's intention was to reiterate the "usual practice" of the board, which was to review these kinds of programs as provided for by PD 1986.

It issued the memo after receiving about two weeks ago a copy of a Supreme Court ruling on a case involving the ABS-CBN television network and ex-Sen. Loren Legarda which noted that the MTRCB had the authority to review public affairs programs.

Laguardia said the board has called for a meeting on Monday with television networks to discuss how the post-review of the shows in question would be conducted.

Bayan Muna Rep. Teddy Casiño has asked Congress to expedite the passage of House Bill No. 4080 seeking to abolish the MTRCB.

If approved, HB 4080 will replace the MTRCB with an MTCB, or Movie and Television Classification Board, which will only classify movies and television programs. *Christine Avendaño*

671 demoralized rebels surrender

A TOTAL of 671 communist New People's Army (NPA) rebels have surrendered to the authorities in the past five months, the Philippine Army said Saturday.

In a statement, the Army said the NPA rebels had cited disillusionment, demoralization and corruption as the main reasons for abandoning the communist struggle.

The Army said those who surrendered included a number of senior NPA commanders but it did not elaborate.

According to the military, some 320 NPA rebels surrendered last year.

The NPA, the armed wing of the Communist Party of the Philippines, has been waging a Maoist armed struggle for a communist state in the hinterlands for the past 36 years.

The military has estimated the NPA's strength today at between 7,000 and 8,000.

Peace talks between Manila and the rebels were indefinitely suspended in August last year after the communist insurgents charged that the government was not doing enough to get their group removed from US and European lists of "terrorist" organizations. *AFP*

Labor dispute in Iraq resolved–Palace

By Christine O. Avendaño
and Jerome Aning

MALACAÑANG yesterday said the situation at a United States military camp in Iraq involving Filipino workers who had gone on strike to protest poor working conditions had been "temporarily resolved."

Press Secretary Ignacio Bunye did not say how the matter had been resolved but in a text message, he said Charge d'Affaires Eric Endaya had gone to the US military camp and "as a result of his mediation, the workers called off [their] protest."

"The President is closely monitoring the issue and she is satisfied that through the intercession of [Endaya], the situation has been temporarily resolved," Bunye also said in a statement.

Bunye said the rights and welfare of the workers was the government's "utmost concern."

"They [workers] can rest assured the government will always be there to help," he said.

Some 300 Filipinos employed at Camp Cook in the Iraqi province of Taji went on strike last week after complaining about working conditions. The workers also asked for more protection from the heat and cold, according to the Department of Foreign Affairs.

The DFA said Endaya was able to convince the leaders of the strike to end their protest and return to work by promising to take up their grievances and concerns with their employers.

The workers are under contract with Prime Projects International (PPI) and Kellogg Brown and Root (KBR), manpower and logistics providers for the US military bases there.

A militant migrants' group, meanwhile, urged the government to issue a strong diplomatic protest over the treatment of OFWs by US companies in Iraq.

At the same time, Migrante chair Connie Bragas-Regalado congratulated the 300 OFWs for staging the strike to protest their working conditions.

The OFWs had complained of delayed wages, long working hours, unsatisfactory food and inadequate accommodations. They were later joined by 500 workers from India, Sri Lanka and Nepal.

"President Arroyo must command her diplomatic officials to issue the appropriate diplomatic rebuke to the US government for the treatment suffered by Filipinos under PPI and KBR," Regalado said. "This shows the disdainful attitude of US companies toward OFWs, who already are among the lowest paid expatriate workers in Iraq."

Migrante also criticized the "cautious" moves of the DFA because they "only aim to defuse the labor dispute between the Filipino workers and the two US companies."

"Again, the statements from Foreign Secretary Alberto Romulo show that the Philippine government's concern for OFWs' rights and well-being in Iraq is non-existent," Regalado said.

In Manila, the OFWs' subcontractor, Anglo-European Placement Services Inc., said the situation at Camp Cook had normalized.

"The workers have returned to their jobs," AESPI vice president for operations Nicky Arcilla told reporters.

"Charge d'Affaires Endaya helped and facilitated the negotiations for the return of the workers," he added.

Arcilla, however, did not give details of the agreement.

The OFWs had gone to Iraq in 2003 and early 2004 before the Philippine government imposed a ban on their deployment.

Regalado said that in Iraq, workers from Western countries earned hundreds of dollars a day, while workers from Third World countries like the Philippines usually got only a few hundred dollars a month.

The Philippines has around 6,000 workers mostly doing construction, catering, maintenance and housekeeping work in US military and coalition installations in Iraq.

HIS IDOL?
A Moro Islamic Liberation Front supporter wearing the face of Osama bin Laden on his T-shirt enters Camp Darapanan in Sultan Kudarat where thousands of Moro guerrillas have gathered for three days of consultations on the ongoing peace talks between the MILF and the Philippine government, which are entering a crucial stage in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. AP

Cuba seeks RP help in extradition

THE CUBAN government expressed hope yesterday the Philippines would support its call for the United States to extradite to Venezuela a self-confessed terrorist who blew up a Cuban airliner three decades ago, killing all 73 people on board.

"The fight against terrorism is all over the world. It is normal to expect that support from the (Philippine) government," Cuban Ambassador Jorge Rey Jimenez said in a press conference at the Cuban Embassy in Makati City.

The Cuban government has been fighting for the extradition of Luis Posada Carriles, who was convicted of the bombing of a Cubana Airlines plane which exploded off the coast of Barbados on Oct. 6, 1976. Venezuela has also sought his arrest and extradition.

The passengers of the ill-fated plane included young winners of the Central American and Caribbean fencing championship and a group of Guyanese students.

Carriles escaped from a Venezuelan jail while awaiting trial for the plane bombing, and even worked for the White House, according to Jimenez.

The Philippine and US governments have been working closely in the international fight against terrorism since the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States.

Carriles, a bitter opponent of Cuban leader Fidel Castro, was taken into custody last week by US authorities. He was believed to have worked also for the Central Intelligence Agency.

In a statement, the Cuban envoy said the US government was aware of the plan to bomb the aircraft, as revealed in an official document from the US Department of Justice dated June 23, 1989. *Nikko Dizon*

Defensor forces firm to rethink Boracay plans

ILOILO CITY—Proponents of a multimillion-peso five-star hotel project on Boracay said they might shelve their plans because of the uncertainty caused by Environment Secretary Michael Defensor's move to reclassify the land in the popular tourist destination.

Annabel Wisniewski, president of HSAI-Raintree, which manages Discovery Suites, said the company was "seriously rethinking" its plan because of uncertainties in the ownership of property on the island.

The project held its groundbreaking last month but Wisniewski said they will "wait and see if it is still a wise investment decision."

The proposed 88-room hotel, touted as the first five-star facility on the island, is set to open next year or early 2007.

Its site is a 7,200-sq m. beach property near Boat Station 1 at the northern end of the 1,082-hectare island. Hotel room rates will start at $200 per night and include various amenities like swimming pools, a clubhouse, restaurants, children's lounge, gym and jacuzzi.

The development will cost a reported P500 million, one of the biggest investments on the island next to the $60-million Shangri-La Resort and Spa set to open in the middle of 2007.

Defensor's retitling plan has come up against resort owners and operators, highlighting a 26-year-old ownership dispute between the government and claimants over the prize lots on the popular tourist island.

The environment secretary said that all of Boracay island was public land and the beachfront resorts were sitting on government property despite the claim of a group of resort owners that court decisions had upheld their ownership of the lands they occupied.

Under an administrative order set to be issued by Defensor, 579.295 hectares, or 56.13 percent of the island, will be declared as "alienable and disposable" that will be transferred to private ownership through public bidding. *Nestor P. Burgos Jr., PDI Visayas Bureau*

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June 5
Gymnastics Demonstration. With mascot appearance and free face painting and glitter tattoos.

June 11
Carnival Experience. Golden show of jugglers, balancers, magicians and other carnival performers. With a bubble show and mascot appearance. Plus free salon for kids and balloon twisting.

June 12
Independence Day Celebration. Hosted by Dang Cruz. Live performances from Freeverse, K and the Boxers and the Lahi Batangan Dance Troupe. With mascot appearance and free face painting and glitter tattoos.

June 18
Dog and Monkey Show. With mascot appearance and yoyo exhibition. Plus free salon for kids and balloon twisting.

June 19
Father's Day Celebration. Presenting "Introduction to Puppetry" by Ventriloquist Ruther Urquia. With mascot appearance and performance from jugglers, stilt walkers and mime artists. Plus free face painting and glitter tattoos.

June 25
Magical Laughter Show. A magic show presenting "Human Puppet." With mascot appearance and performance from jugglers, stilt walkers and mime artists. Plus free face painting and glitter tattoos.

June 26
Finale Event. Hosted by Dang Cruz. With live performances from Dang Cruz, Mark Bautista, Rachel Ann Go and Freemale Dancers.

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Another group raps killing of RP lawyers

LUCENA CITY—A week after the Netherlands-based International Association of People's Lawyers (IAPL) expressed alarm over the safety of legal practitioners in the Philippines, another international lawyers' group aired the same concern and is set to discuss the threat to Filipino lawyers in its congress next month.

"I am confident we should be able to arouse international opinion on this issue and bring it to the notice of the legal fraternity throughout the world," said Jitendra Sharma, president of the International Association of Democratic Lawyers (IADL), in a statement.

The IADL is set to hold its 16th congress in Paris, France, on June 7-11.

Sharma cited data that showed that in 2005, three lawyers and a law student were killed in the Philippines, while in 2004 seven lawyers and judges were slain.

On top of the killings, the Committee for the Defense of Lawyers (Codal), a group of Filipino legal practitioners, has documented 11 cases of harassment and attacks against lawyers.

The attacks included an alleged assassination attempt on human rights lawyer Romeo Capulong on March 7.

The Philippine military recently tagged the human rights lawyers' groups, Protestant Lawyers League and Free Legal Assistance Group, as "enemies of the state" in a CD titled, "Knowing the Enemy."

Lawyer Rachel Pastores, Codal spokesperson, said Sharma had signed the "Manifesto on the Attacks against Lawyers and the Legal Profession," in support of the signature campaign that was recently launched at the University of the Philippines College of Law.

"The signature of the IADL president and his pledge of support signify that the attacks in the Philippines have caught the ire of the world community of lawyers and judges," Pastores said.

Founded in Paris in 1946, the IADL has helped develop international laws on human rights and international peace and security. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Informal sector may get benefits

WORKERS in the informal sector or the so-called underground economy may soon receive benefits and protection from the government.

Labor Secretary Patricia Sto. Tomas yesterday said the Department of Labor and Employment's upcoming review of the Labor Code would include a study on how these workers could get more benefits and protection.

When the formal employment sector does not provide enough job opportunities, rural migrants and urban dwellers seek employment in small-scale and micro-level manufacturing and distribution of goods and services.

These largely unrecognized, unrecorded and unregulated small-scale activities constitute the informal sector, providing 50 to 60 percent of the work force in many Southeast and South Asian cities.

Informal workers in the Philippines include market stall owners; cigarette, refreshment, snack and packed meal vendors; those who provide services such as laundry, shoeshine or umbrella repair, part-time housekeepers and babysitters; and those engaged in buy-and-sell business.

They accounted for a third of the country's total nonagricultural gross domestic product from 1993 to 2003.

Citing a recent Dole study, Sto. Tomas said the number of informal workers was on the rise. As of January 2005, the informal sector employed some 15.520 million people. *Jerome Aning*

Correction

IN YESTERDAY'S issue, a caption in the Sports section on Page A27 misstated that Mikey Arroyo was a congressman of Pangasinan. The son of President Macapagal-Arroyo represents the second district of Pampanga.

* * *

Readers may send their requests for correction of factual errors in writing to Gerry Lirio, city editor, Philippine Daily Inquirer, PDI Building, Chino Roces Avenue corner Mascardo Street, Makati City; fax Nos. 897-4793/94; e-mail addresses: glirio@inquirer.com.ph and daydesk@inquirer.com.ph.

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First Quadrant, Inc. Chairman Soc Tumpalan highlights the unique partnership of Globe and First Quadrant.

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Making it big in MLM is now made more possible with Globe and First Quadrant coming together said Ricky Chan, Head of Direct Sales of Globe Telecom

First Quadrant business associates get in line to inquire of the 2B1Q business opportunities available to them.

Doyee and Soc Tumpalan welcome Globe's Ricky Chan to the First Quadrant family.

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The leader in wireless innovation meets the first in MLM innovation. (From left) Globe Telecom Sales and Distribution Head Lizanne Uychaco, Globe Telecom Head of Consumer Business Group, Ferdz dela Cruz, First Quadrant, Inc. President Doyee Tumpalan and First Quadrant, Inc. Chairman Socrates Tumpalan.

Anti-'jueteng' archbishop tries to fill Sin's shoes

From page A1

Cruz said it was a trait he developed while serving under the retired prelate in the 1970s.

It was Sin, then the leading voice against martial law, who recommended Cruz to become a bishop. Cruz became Manila's auxiliary bishop in 1976, a position he would later describe as "something ambivalently fearful and pleasurable," especially under Sin.

In his book "Media in Our Midst," Cruz wrote: "It is hard to fight this man, but it is neither easy to follow him. His foes and his friends are either historical or living witnesses to this truth."

Still, Cruz said the "apprenticeship" nurtured a "great respect and awe" for his mentor, who was six years his senior.

"We spoke like father and son," he said. "When he retired, I told him that the man who would take his place was not yet born. I still believe so."

Cruz spent two years with Sin in Manila before he moved to the archdiocese of San Fernando, Pampanga, in 1978. He left fired up by Sin's activism and soon became a media darling.

"The double fact of being bishop and auxiliary bishop of Cardinal Sin inevitably prepared me to see and know more, to think and work much, and yes, to pray, too, in that order," he wrote.

"And needless to say, to relate with the media, not really by personal option, but rather by force of circumstance."

Most visible

Nearly three decades later, Cruz has become the most visible Church leader in the media, next only to evangelist and flamboyant self-made Catholic lay leader Mike Velarde of El Shaddai.

Cruz said it was an exposure he didn't seek, but one that naturally came to him.

His exposé on jueteng payoffs prompted congressmen to listen to his story during a recent inquiry. Cruz furnished them with a list of operators who allegedly remitted P19.6 million monthly to a top police official.

The archbishop is set to appear at a similar investigation by the Senate this week. Senators want to know everything he knows about the illegal numbers game.

About two years ago, people and the media hardly cared about what this lean, bespectacled prelate was saying. They probably doubted how an aging bishop could know so much about jueteng.

Studying the system

But Cruz did his homework.

He returned to Pampanga where he served as archbishop for many years and studied how the system of jueteng worked, how it proliferated despite the presence of law enforcement.

"I met with jueteng operators and collectors," he said. "I visited places where bets were being placed and draws were being held. I really went out on the ground to see for myself."

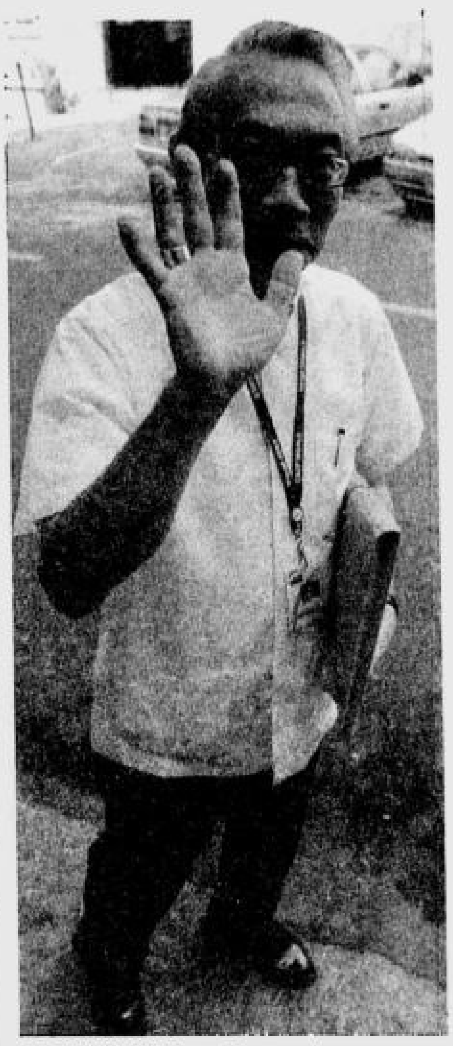
Convinced that jueteng should be stopped, he put up the Krusadang Bayan Laban sa Jueteng, a multisectoral antigambling watchdog, in October 2002. The group first got noticed when it started giving annual awards to government officials who fought jueteng.

President Macapagal-Arroyo, offering no reason, ignored its first awards night in 2003. Vice President Noli De Castro snubbed its third last April.

Rattling the system

But Cruz kept talking.

And now, politicians and gambling operators have not only taken notice—they're rattled.



ARCHBISHOP Oscar Cruz carries a "confidential" envelope on his arrival at the Department of Justice. The archbishop met with Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez to discuss "jueteng" after Malacañang launched an all-out war on the illegal numbers racket.

REM ZAMORA

"They're starving," the bishop said, referring to jueteng operators, particularly in Pampanga, once described by Sen. Aquilino Pimentel as the "Vatican of jueteng."

Citing sources who included jueteng collectors, Cruz said business was not as lucrative as before because of the controversy and subsequent government action generated by his exposé.

The advocacy came with a cost.

Cruz said he had been regularly receiving death threats by phone.

He voiced suspicions that his phone conversations were being bugged, owing to the "voices and echoes" he would hear on his cellular phone.

Just fishing

Last year, he and his driver chased three men whom he caught taking pictures of his house in Dagupan City. Cornered, the men claimed they were just looking for milkfish.

The threats have not been successful, so far, and Cruz has consistently refused bodyguards offered by the Philippine National Police because they would only "limit" his movements.

The PNP provincial mobile group in Pangasinan offered to provide regular perimeter security at his Dagupan residence, but Cruz said he was not really comfortable with the set-up.

"If someone wants to kill you, you really can't do anything about it," he said. "Of course, I'm not saying that I want to die already. That's just the way it is. Besides, I have God as my protector."

In the meantime, Cruz said he would keep on rattling government officials and the public until jueteng is eliminated.

US group …

From page A1

learned about the citizenship rules of the American Gold Star Mothers while working on a national cemetery committee of the Veterans Administration.

When Spadaro learned about the death of Anthony Lagman and found out that the fallen soldier was a US citizen but his mother was not, he thought: "He's buried in a military cemetery, with full honors. She should be able to join."

"We decided to tell the absolute truth on the application," Spadaro said. "We put down, 'I am not an American citizen.' It was a ploy to get them to reject her, and then we said they should change the rules."

But the organization's 12-member executive board voted against any change.

"We can't go changing the rules every time we turn around," said Herd.

"When we have problems within our organization with people not abiding by the rules, we just get it straightened out, we don't change the rules," she added.

But the organization's incoming president on Friday said the rule could eventually be changed.

"The charter was written 77 years ago and we're in the next generation, I realize that," said Judith Young who becomes president next month. "Things have changed, times have changed, people have changed."

But Young added that the rule change would not happen overnight because all members must have a chance to vote on the issue.

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Lapid to pursue 'jueteng' inquiry

From page A1

investigation to the proper authorities.

He said that if the members of his committee on games and Sen. Manuel Villar's committee on public order would agree, the inquiry could be terminated after the first hearing.

Villar had opposed the scrapping of the inquiry, saying it would be bad for the Senate to appear as if it were afraid of touching the controversy surrounding jueteng.

Lapid is a former governor of Pampanga, where jueteng is known to flourish, and a friend of suspected jueteng lord Rodolfo "Bong" Pineda.

"We cannot scrap the investigation. If some senators want to stop it, it's up to them. But I will push through with it," Lapid said, adding that anyway, "my committee will not be accusing anybody."

He reiterated that the inquiry would focus on pending proposals for the legalization of jueteng.

All witnesses

Lapid said all the witnesses identified by senators and Lingayen-Dagupan Archbishop Oscar Cruz would be invited or summoned to the inquiry, "including my son [Pampanga Gov. Mark Lapid]" and First Gentleman Mike Arroyo, provided somebody would testify to the latter's supposed link to jueteng.

"He should answer the accusations [against him], but we will not be passing judgment on him," Lapid said of Ms Arroyo's husband, who is abroad. "He can be invited, but if he will invoke his privacy, there is nothing we can do."

As for Pineda, a native of Lubao, Pampanga, who has alleged connections to the First Family, Lapid disclaimed knowledge of his whereabouts.

"Maybe you should ask about that from the airport," Lapid said, when asked to confirm reports that Pineda had flown to the United States.

Six have been invited to the first hearing—Archbishop Cruz, Philippine National Police Director General Arturo Lomibao, Interior Secretary Reyes, Philippine Amusement and Gaming Corp. chair Efraim Genuino, Philippine Charity Sweepstakes Office head Sergio Valencia and Bohol Rep. Erico Aumentado, chair of the Union of Local Authorities of the Philippines.

Mayor of Apalit

Pimentel said he would seek the inclusion in the Senate inquiry of Mayor Tirso Lacanilao of Apalit, Pampanga.

Lacanilao was reported to have admitted receiving P200,000 a month from jueteng operators, and spending the money for the medicine, tuition, hospital and burial expenses of his constituents.

Pimentel also said he had reliable information that Sanchez, one of the governors Cruz had identified as being involved in jueteng, was set to leave the country.

"Is Governor Sanchez going abroad to evade the investigation?" he said. "I don't know if that is intentional, but just the same it will be good if Secretary Reyes will not allow these local officials to leave while the Senate probe is going on."

Pimentel said Reyes should find out who among the implicated local officials were planning to "cool off" abroad.

He pointed out that under existing rules and unlike ordinary citizens, local officials could not just go on foreign trips without giving prior notice to and seeking permission from the Department of Interior and Local Government.

The Department of Justice is on the trail of suspected jueteng lords who have put up dummy firms and "betting stations" for money-laundering, Justice Secretary Raul Gonzalez said.

He said the DOJ had identified the Asian Betting Station in Eastwood, Libis, Quezon City, as a place that jueteng lords were using to launder money. It reportedly closed shop after the jueteng scandal broke.

Gonzalez said the DOJ was still trying to establish the laundering process in the betting stations, which "a former public official" had told him about.

According to initial information, jueteng money is being used to finance substantial betting on National Basketball Association games or golf tournaments, he said.

The Bureau of Internal Revenue is also investigating the businesses and assets of jueteng lords preparatory to filing tax evasion or graft charges against them, Gonzalez said.

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Turn in . . .

From page A1

the installation of a text line where citizens can report operations of the illegal numbers game in their communities.

According to PNP spokesperson Senior Supt. Leopoldo Bataoil, the text messaging mechanism—Text PNP 2920—is meant to verify that all towns and cities nationwide are indeed jueteng-free, as certified by local police chiefs, mayors and religious leaders.

"We are enlisting everyone's support. The validation [of the PNP's claim] should not only rest on our hands. It is the responsibility of everyone," Bataoil said at a breakfast forum yesterday in Quezon City.

He called on citizens to report any information on jueteng, be it an ongoing operation or a plan to operate in a certain area.

But he said no reward system had yet been set for any information that would lead to a successful antijueteng raid and subsequent arrests.

"If the head of the police unit fails to act on information that is proven to be factual, he or she will face administrative charges," Bataoil said.

How it works

Under Text PNP 2920, concerned texters should type "PNP," a space, and the jueteng information that they want to report. They should then send the message to 2920.

They may choose to send information anonymously by simply not typing in their identification and other personal circumstances.

Once received, the message will be passed on for verification to the police unit in the area concerned.

Bataoil said the PNP text service number was instituted in 2002 and used as a means to receive reports from concerned citizens on all crimes.

He said the PNP now intended to use it mainly for the antijueteng campaign.

The system is being supervised by the PNP Community Relations Service in Camp Crame.

Bataoil said all police regional directors in Luzon had turned over to PNP Director General Arturo Lomibao their "jueteng-free" certifications.

Governors' resolution

The League of Provinces of the Philippines, otherwise known as the association of provincial governors, has adopted a resolution supporting President Macapagal-Arroyo's campaign to make the entire country free of jueteng and other illegal numbers games.

The resolution was sponsored by Ilocos Sur Gov. Luis "Chavit" Singson—whose testimony that President Joseph Estrada had received millions of pesos in jueteng payola led to the latter's ouster—during the league's plenary session at its special general assembly in Manila on Friday.

The governors, a number of whom were listed in an alleged jueteng bagman's ledger, acknowledged that "the involvement of local governments is crucial and necessary to successfully put an end to this illegal numbers game and other illegal gambling activities."

"There is a big difference between the time of President Joseph Estrada and President Macapagal-Arroyo. Then, President Estrada was himself involved and the operations were centralized," Singson said.

"Now, President Arroyo is not involved," he said.

Singson was among those listed in the ledger. But he has denied involvement in jueteng operations.

'Logical' move

The governors' league has also backed calls for the scrapping of the congressional inquiries into jueteng.

Eastern Samar Gov. Ben Evardone, spokesperson of the league, told the INQUIRER that the scrapping of the investigations was but "logical and laudable."

"It's time to put this thing to rest because it is not helping our country any. Our country's energy is being sapped," Evardone said on the sidelines of the agri-business summit sponsored by the Department of Agriculture on Friday.

Report of 2 stragglers downplayed

From page A1

city since the reports about the octogenarian stragglers emerged Friday.

Japan's Kyodo news agency, citing government sources, earlier said the men could be Yoshio Yamakawa, who would now be 87, and Tsuzuki Nakauchi, 83.

But the two old soldiers have not been seen.

A Japanese government welfare official, Suminori Arima, left Tokyo for the Philippines yesterday to join the Japanese diplomats in General Santos City making efforts to contact the two World War II stragglers.

"If the story turns out to be true, it would be tremendous," Arima, head of the research office at the welfare and labor ministry, said before boarding a flight to Manila.

"I want to meet them in person no matter how and ask about their health and other matters," said Arima, who is expected today in Mindanao.

Seiichi Ogawa, the Davao City-based Japanese consul, said there could a positive development in the next two days.

Curiosity

Ogawa said that, like everyone else, the Japanese Embassy wanted to know if the report was true but that the curiosity of journalists and concerns about the safety of the stragglers were delaying the process.

Japanese diplomats posted a note outside the journalists' hotel in General Santos City informing them that local authorities had warned them not to leave the city because the surrounding countryside was not safe.

The note, in Japanese, warned Japanese correspondents not to accept offers from people claiming to know the location of the "stragglers" and offering to guide them into the mountains.

It said that Japanese journalists risked being kidnapped.

"If a Filipino invites you, do not go with him because it could be a trap," was how a Japanese reporter translated the warning.

Police and the military reiterated a warning that communist and Moro rebels were active in the mountains around General Santos. Moro rebels are known to have conducted kidnappings for ransom.

But some members of a Japanese television crew ignored the warnings and went with some Filipino journalists to Tupi town, about 30 km from General Santos, to interview some descendants of Japanese in the town.

The mystery of how two Japanese World War II soldiers could remain in hiding during the decades of armed insurgency in Mindanao remained unanswered as Ogawa said the Japanese Embassy still had no details on the location of the two.

"There are many rumors of old soldiers hiding in the mountains or on islands but there is never any solid evidence," he said.

Asked why this case was different, Ogawa said it is "more concrete than the others" but he did not elaborate.

"We are told these men want to come to the city," He said.

The embassy has seen no documents or photographs to support reports that the two men were in hiding but has been working through the intermediary, Ogawa said.

"He [Osana] has many Filipino contacts and it is through these contacts that he became aware of the two soldiers," Ogawa said, adding that he did not think the intermediary had actually seen the soldiers.

"We are here to confirm the report," he said.

Skepticism

On Friday, a senior police intelligence officer in the area had expressed skepticism over the story of the war veterans.

"There is a possibility that this could just be a hoax. Somebody may just want to gain something," the officer said.

Japan was stunned in 1974 when former Imperial Japanese Army intelligence officer Hiroo Onoda was found living in the jungle on the island of Lubang in Occidental Mindoro. He did not know of Japan's surrender 29 years earlier.

After being repatriated, Onoda emigrated to Brazil.

Another former Japanese soldier, Shoichi Yokoi, was found on Guam in 1972. He returned home and died in 1997.

The last known Japanese straggler from the war was found in 1975 in Indonesia.

Japanese diplomats had expected to meet the two soldiers on Friday but were unable to contact the mediator. They said they were not yet convinced the story was true.

But Japanese media have reported that the men's names appeared in official records as being in a Japanese Imperial Army unit that was posted to Mindanao near the end of the war.

The reports said the two soldiers had become separated from their unit and had settled with tribal communities in the mountains—which are now infested with communist and Moro rebels—afraid they would face a court-martial if they returned to Japan.

The Philippines, invaded by Japan in 1941, was the scene of heavy fighting at the end of the war as Japanese soldiers fiercely loyal to the emperor fought US troops across the country's thousands of remote islands.

Japanese media played up the story of the two soldiers prominently at home, showing footage of Japanese troops during the war but not touching on a brutal occupation that was believed to have left as many as one million Filipinos dead.

Repatriation

Prime Minister Junichiro Koizumi told reporters on Friday that if the two were found to be Japanese soldiers, the government would try to repatriate them, if that is their wish.

Ogawa said the Ministry of Health was investigating the case after it received what appeared to be handwritten letters from the two elderly men. Investigators from the ministry also left Tokyo for Mindanao yesterday.

The Daily Yomiuri newspaper reported that Yamakawa was a lieutenant and Nakauchi a corporal in the 30th Regiment of the 30th Division that was sent to Mindanao in 1944.

On a roster of Japanese Imperial Army members kept in the health ministry's archives, the two men were registered as dead, the paper said.

General Santos residents said it was well known that some Japanese soldiers had avoided surrendering to the Allied forces and had married into tribal communities in the nearby mountains.

Hehache Tao, a local church minister and a descendant of a Japanese soldier, told reporters he had heard about the two stragglers from his grandfather but doubted they were still alive or, if they were, that they wanted to go back to Japan.

"One of the reasons why they don't want to go back to Japan is fear that they might be killed or punished by the Imperial Army," Tao told reporters.

"They don't want other people to know that they are still there," he said.

AFP and Reuters, with a report from Aquiles Z. Zonio and Jeoffrey Maitem, PDI Mindanao Bureau

Inquirer...

From page A1

Mercado was recognized for his series of columns, "Treading Fine Lines," "Lobotomized Mindsets," "Murder with a Wink," "Do our Clocks Strike 13?" and "Amnesia Anyone?"

Stephen Vines of Hong Kong's The Standard won the award for Best Opinion Writing in category B for his columns, "Party Poopers," "Passport Patriots," "The Great Betrayal," "Not a Time for Platitudes," "Time to Act" and "The Cruelest Cut of All."

The Asian Wall Street Journal won the Excellence in Newspapers award in category A—the award for regional newspapers, large magazines and wire services—for its "breadth of coverage on Asia through all sections."

The Standard won the Excellence in Newspapers award in category B for being "consistent across politics, sports, and especially business," and being "a strong read in a nice small package." It garnered most of the awards in those categories.

The now-defunct Far Eastern Economic Review won the Excellence in Magazines award.

The Asian Wall Street Journal swept the awards in category A, winning Excellence in Reporting, Excellence in Feature Writing, Excellence in Business Reporting, Excellence in Human Rights Reporting, and Excellence in Reporting on the Environment.

TIME Asia was cited for Excellence in Online Publishing, while its photo "Guerillas in the Mist" won for Excellence in News Photography.

The Financial Times' Victor Mallet won for award for Excellence in Opinion Writing. Bloomberg News was cited for Excellence in Wire Service Reporting, Newsweek (Digital Asia/Travel/Design 2005) for Excellence in Magazine Design, BusinessWeek (Yao!) for Excellence in Magazine Front Cover Design, South China Morning Post for Excellence in Newspaper Design, and Fortune (Inside the New China) for Excellence in Feature Photography.

Under category B, The Standard won for Excellence in Reporting and Excellence in Business Reporting. The South China Morning Post won the Excellence in Feature Writing, Excellence in Special Issue or Special Section and Excellence in News Photography (Pollution: Hong Kong's Greatest Challenge) awards. DestinAsian (Timor's Time/Sydney: Sailing into the future) won the Excellence in Feature Photography awards.

Ming Pao reaped most of the awards in the category of Chinese language publications, winning for Excellence in Newspapers, Excellence in Feature Writing, Excellence in Human Rights Reporting and Excellence in Newspaper Design.

Apple Daily won the Excellence in Opinion Writing, Excellence in Editorial Cartooning and Excellence in News Photography awards.

The Sopa Awards were established in 1999 as a tribute to editorial excellence in both traditional and new media and are designed to honor excellence and to encourage editorial vitality throughout the region.

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The WORLD

Editor **Luverne B. Gueco**

Worst bomb attack since Bali kills 20 in Indonesia

JAKARTA—Two bombs exploded Saturday in a busy market on Indonesia's Sulawesi island, killing 20 people and wounding 40 others in the worst attack in the country since the October 2002 Bali bombings.

Police in Jakarta said the attack bore hallmarks of Islamic militants behind a string of other atrocities in Indonesia, including the Bali blasts in which 202 mainly Western tourists died.

The latest bombs detonated within minutes of each other in the center of the Christian-dominated town of Tentena in the island's Central Sulawesi province, which has been a flash point of sectarian violence in recent years.

The second explosion struck outside a police station as people rushed to help those hit by the first blast near a bank 15 minutes earlier. A Christian cleric and an infant were among those killed.

"The first bomb was placed to attract the crowd's attention so that they would gather in the area and become the target of the second bomb," said First Inspector Adam, a policeman on duty in the nearby city of Poso.

Witnesses say the explosions punched out the windows of surrounding buildings and scattered shards of metal that left a police officer among the wounded.

National police spokesperson Anang Budiharjo said no foreigners were hurt in Saturday's attack but the nature of the incident suggested the hand of Azahari Husin, a fugitive bombmaker allegedly allied to the Jemaah Islamiyah militant group.

Jemaah Islamiyah is a Southeast Asian extremist organization which authorities say has connections with Osama bin Laden's al-Qaida.

"I'm not saying at the moment that this is the work of Azahari's group. However, since he has been at large for so long it is possible that he has recruited new members in that area," Budiharjo said.

"We do not rule out that possibility because the patterns, the use of bombs, are the trademarks of that group."

National police chief Da'i Bachtiar earlier this week said Azahari was suspected to be behind a series of bomb threats to oil firms on the island of Borneo, to the west of Sulawesi.

Police fears over a potential bombing similar to one last year which killed 11 people at Australia's embassy on Thursday prompted the United States to shutter its diplomatic missions across the world's largest Muslim country.

Azahari is wanted in connection with the embassy bombing, the Bali bombings and a car bombing that killed 12 people at Jakarta's JW Marriott hotel.

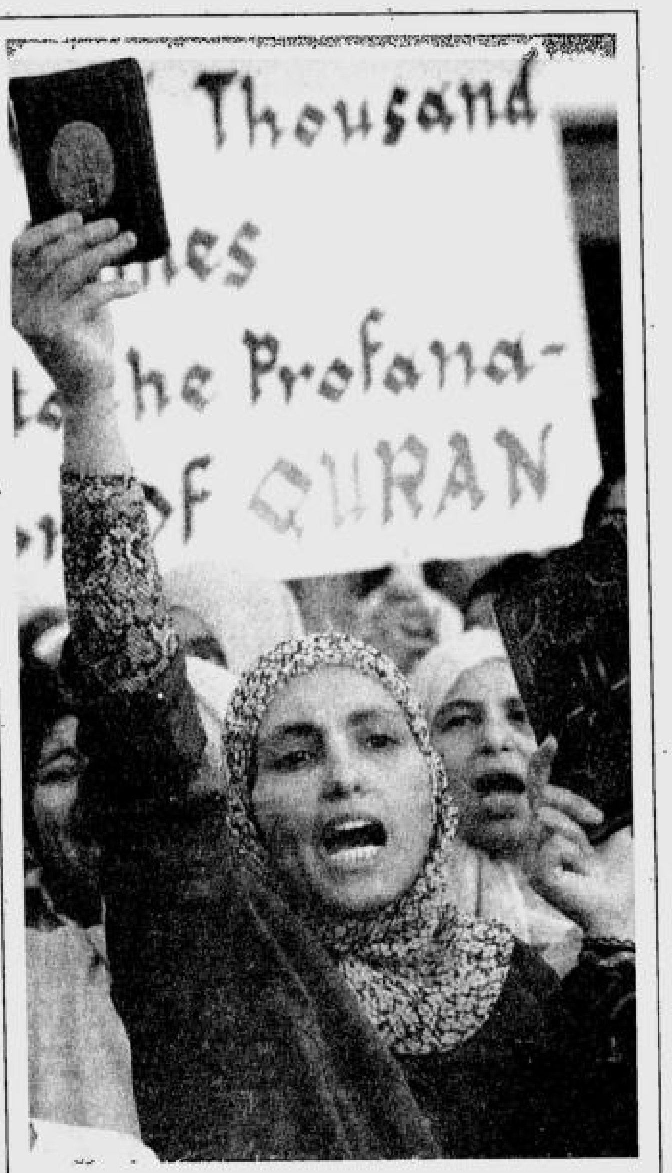
Roadblocks were set up around Tentena, 2,000 km northeast of Jakarta as police began investigating the blast.

A medic at the town's hospital said they were struggling to deal with the casualties due to limited supplies and a shortage of trained staff.

"We need blood bags and medicine because many of the wounded are losing blood and need immediate attention," he said.

The bombing is the most serious single incident in Sulawesi since fighting broke out between Muslims and Christians in December 2001, leaving 1,000 people dead before the government brokered a peace deal in December 2001.

A report last year by the International Crisis Group blamed many more recent Christian deaths in the main Central Sulawesi city of Poso on Mujahidin KOMPAK, an outfit with loose affiliations to Jemaah Islamiyah. *AFP*



STILL RAGING
Islamists brandish the Holy Koran in a protest May 27 at Rabat, Morocco. Thousands more Islamic hardliners launched fresh protests across Pakistan Friday after the US admitted some guards at Guantanamo Bay had mishandled the Koran. AFP

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Chechen leader Basayev owns massive power outage in Moscow

MOSCOW—Chechen rebel warlord Shamil Basayev claimed responsibility Friday for the massive power outage that plunged the Russian capital into chaos earlier this week, in a statement published on a website close to Chechen separatists.

"On May 24 and 25 Mujahedin sabotage groups successfully conducted a special operation in Moscow and the surrounding region, causing a major breakdown in the power system," said a statement from Basayev, sent by email to the news agency Kavkazcenter.com.

"Our sabotage groups struck a major blow against one of the most important systems of the Russian empire," the statement said, adding "the result of this special operation exceeded all our expectations."

Basayev has claimed responsibility for a number of attacks on Russia, including the Beslan school hostage taking in southern Russia where 339 people were killed in September 2004, and the explosion in the Moscow metro which killed 10 people on Aug. 31, 2004.

They also include the attacks on two commercial airliners on Aug. 24 which killed 90 people, and the hostage taking at Moscow's Dubrovka theater in October 2002 in which 130 people were killed.

This week's blackout affected five million people, leaving many homes and businesses in Moscow without electricity for much of the day, stranding 20,000 people in underground metro tunnels, and causing chaos on the city's streets.

Officials quickly dismissed a terrorist act with Russia's monopoly electricity producer United Energy Systems (UES) blaming the outage on an accident at its Chagino power plant, which runs on equipment installed more than four decades ago.

The company has said a small fire erupted at the plant south of Moscow on Tuesday, but then the facility's aging equipment failed on Wednesday.

A UES executive said several consecutive days of hot weather may have played a role in the breakdown while a company spokesperson also pointed to a lack of investment in the electricity network.

UES chief executive Anatoly Chubais was questioned for four hours Friday by the Moscow public prosecutor's office which is investigating possible negligence by UES management over Wednesday's blackout.

BASAYEV in Oct. 18, 1999 photo

Chubais, a key architect of Russia's controversial privatization program in the 1990s who is still reviled by many Russians, has come under intense criticism for the blackout from officials including President Vladimir Putin.

The outage was also blamed for a discharge of raw sewage into the Moskva river that runs through the capital and for the stoppage of temperature-regulating systems at a chicken farm that resulted in the deaths of some 900,000 chickens.

The chickens' owners said they planned to sue UES officials for damages totaling at least 60 million rubles (around $2 million) caused by the power cut.

An electricity expert said after the blackout that Russia's electric power grid will be totally obsolete within the next seven years and predicted it would cost between $50 and $60 billion (euros) to replace it with an up-to-date system. *AFP*

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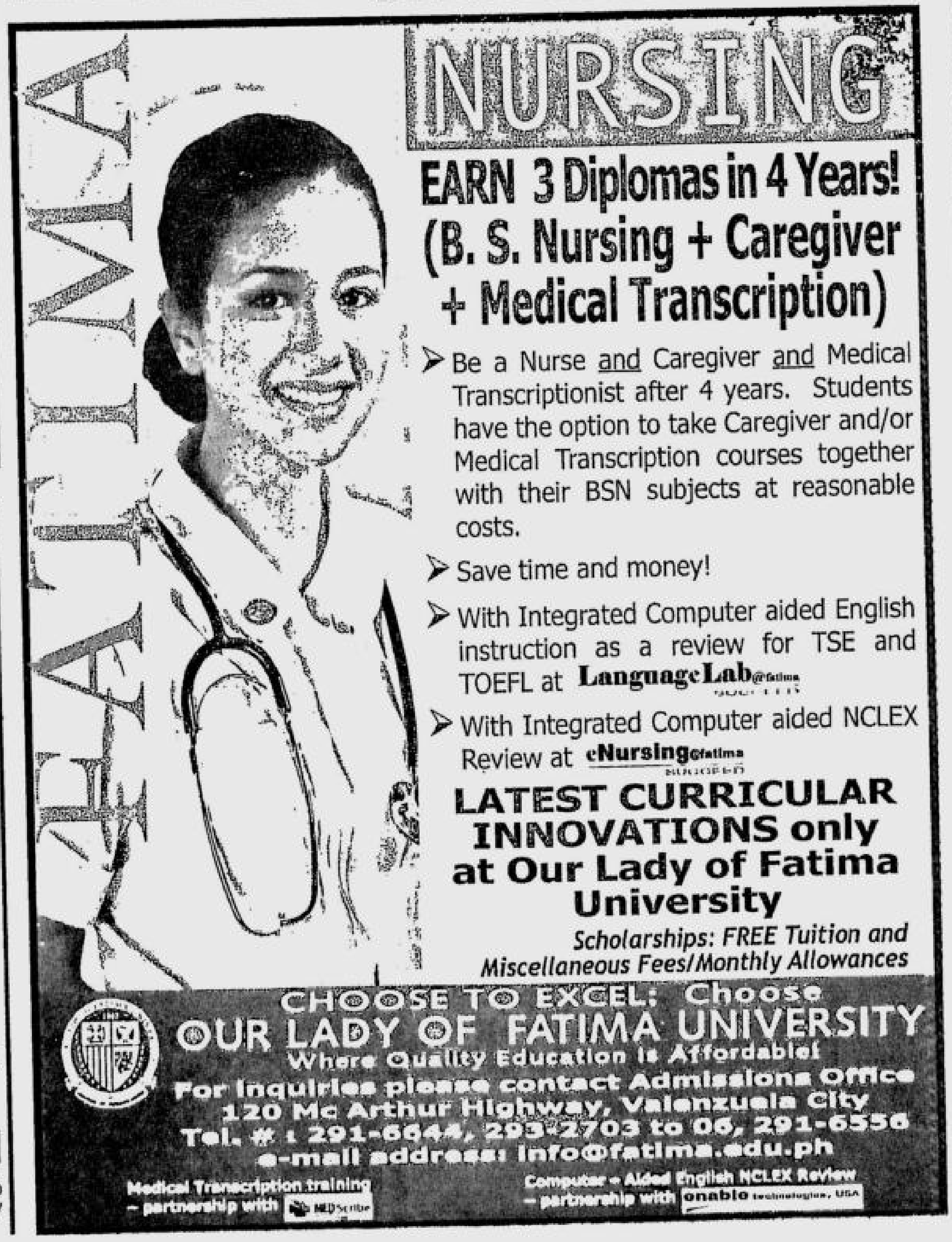
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Dream isle will be jail nightmare for Australian drug smuggler Corby

CORBY sitting in her detention house at Denpasar-Bali prison, Feb. 16. AFP

By Benito Lopulalan

DENPASAR, Indonesia—A 20-year stretch on the Indonesian paradise island of Bali sounds like heaven for most people, but for convicted Australian drug smuggler Schapelle Corby, it is likely to be a living hell.

For the next two decades, barring a successful appeal or a prisoner exchange deal with her homeland, the 27-year-old will be confined to a disease-infested prison housing some of the world's most notorious Islamic extremists.

And, say experts, unless Corby resigns herself to her fate—something she has so far refused to do—her sentence for smuggling 4.1 kg of marijuana onto the island will be much worse.

After her sentencing on Friday, the student beautician was dragged from her tearful family and taken to Kerobokan jail, a sprawling maximum security penitentiary on the fringes of the Balinese capital Denpasar.

While Australia's prisons may not exactly be the world's most comfortable—particularly its widely-criticized detention centers for asylum seekers—Kerobokan will make most facilities look like a five-star hotel.

Corby's nightmare has stirred massive sympathy in Australia, which has an enduring love affair with Bali. Analysts say the support for Corby reflects the fear many of her countrymen have of finding themselves in the same predicament.

Those familiar with the Kerobokan paint a grim picture of the cramped and dirty cells, where poor sanitation and a lack of air conditioning against the tropical climate create a breeding ground for disease.

Kerobokan's prisoners are locked up for 20 hours a day in dark rooms which measure a mere three square meters. Larger 30-meter cells are usually crammed with up to 20 prisoners, according to prison doctor, Anak Agung Gede Hartawan.

He said that most inmates sleep on a piece of carpet laid out on the concrete floor, although wealthier prisoners are allowed to purchase mattresses and beds. Ablutions are done using a bucket and ladle—there are no showers.

Common diseases include respiratory ailments and skin conditions, while many prisoners complain of headaches. Hartawan said 11 prisoners are confirmed carriers of HIV/AIDS but 30 are estimated to have the virus.

He said food was adequate in the prison, with inmates allowed to receive meals brought from outside by visitors. Many prisoners arrive skinny and leave plump.

A warder at the prison told AFP that Corby's cell was "ordinary" and that she received no special treatment compared to other female occupants, who are usually required to wear a prison uniform. *AFP*

Nuclear arms meet collapses without deal

UNITED NATIONS—After a month of bickering, the 188 signatories to the global pact against atomic weapons ended their conference on Friday with no agreement on new steps to combat the danger of a nuclear holocaust.

The review of the nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty was characterized by divisive debates over North Korea, Iran's nuclear enrichment ambitions, Israel's presumed atomic arsenal and US plans for new and improved atomic weapons.

When the conference began on May 2, countries had hoped to agree on a plan to repair loopholes in the treaty that enable countries to acquire sensitive atomic technology and to hear from Washington and the four other NPT members with nuclear weapons that they remained committed to disarming.

But it quickly descended into procedural bickering, led by the United States, Iran and Egypt, and ended after approving nothing more than a document that listed the agenda and participants.

In a clear swipe at Washington, which angered developing countries by refusing to reaffirm previous pledges to scrap its own nuclear arsenal, Canada's chief delegate blasted countries that tossed aside earlier commitments.

"If governments simply ignore or discard commitments whenever they prove inconvenient, we will never be able to build an edifice of international cooperation and confidence in the security realm," Ambassador Paul Meyer, the head of Canada's delegation, said in a speech to the conference.

"We believe this is a treaty worth fighting for and we are not prepared to stand idly by while its crucial supports are undermined," Meyer said.

The United States has denied undermining the conference. Privately, US officials put the blame on Iran and Egypt, who they said hijacked the block of non-aligned nations in an attempt to focus criticism on the United States and Israel. *Reuters*

Pakistan police try to identify bombing suspect

ISLAMABAD—Police began efforts Saturday to identify the remains of a suspected suicide bomber who attacked a popular Muslim shrine near the official residence of Pakistan's prime minister, killing at least 20 people and wounding scores more, an official said.

The explosion ripped through a congregation of hundreds of mainly Shiite worshippers who had gathered Friday for the last day of a religious festival at the Bari Imam shrine.

The shrine is about a kilometer from the residence of Prime Minister Shaukat Aziz and the heavily guarded diplomatic enclave that houses the embassy of the United States and other countries in the capital, Islamabad.

Thousands of Muslims, both Sunnis and minority Shiites, attended the five-day festival. The explosion left blood, body parts, shoes and pieces of clothing scattered over a wide area.

Police recovered the head of a man who appeared to be in his 20s and is believed to be the suicide attacker, said Information Minister Sheikh Rashid Ahmed.

"(Investigators) are trying to identify him. We will soon determine who he is," Ahmed said.

He offered a reward of 500,000 rupees ($8,400) for information that helps identify the attacker.

Saturday newspapers published photographs of the suspect's head—with an unshaven face, thin mustache and curly hair.

The bombing struck the congregation under a canvas shade as they awaited the arrival of Shiite leader Hamid Mosavi, a vehement critic of the US-led war on terrorism, who was about to deliver a sermon. Mosavi was not hurt, witnesses said.

A government official, Tariq Pirzada, said at least 18 people were killed and 86 others hurt in the explosion, the state-run Associated Press of Pakistan news agency reported.

Hundreds of Shiite worshippers, beating their chests and heads in mourning, clashed with police near the shrine afterward when officers charged the crowd with batons to clear the way for ambulances. Some chanted, "Down with America!" *AP*

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Saudi's King Fahd hospitalized, in stable condition

RIYADH—King Fahd was in stable condition Saturday, medical officials said, a day after the monarch was hospitalized for unspecified medical tests.

Wherever groups of people gathered in the capital, they discussed the king's health. Newspapers carried front-page news of the hospitalization, some pointing out that no state of emergency had been declared despite reports the day before.

"I'm asking God to protect King Fahd for us and his family," said businessman Ebrahim Al-Khudair, 39. "The stability of the kingdom comes with his name."

Life was normal in the capital, with offices, schools and shops open and no extra security presence visible. A previously scheduled meeting of Gulf Cooperation Council heads of state was going ahead as planned, officials said.

The official Saudi Press Agency said Fahd, who is believed to be 82, was admitted to King Faisal Specialist Hospital in Riyadh for medical tests. One official said doctors believed the monarch had pneumonia. The official requested anonymity because of the sensitivity of his position.

Turki Abdelaziz Al-Washmi, 27, was concerned about the seriousness of the king's condition, noting that previous hospitalizations had mentioned specific ailments.

"King Fahd is a father figure for all of us. I'm praying that he gets well soon. I pray that God gives him health," Al-Washmi said.

Saudi television station Al-Ekhbariya reported that Abdullah assured Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak during a phone call late Friday that Fahd's health was good and that the medical examinations were going normally.

Fahd, king since 1982, suffered a debilitating stroke in 1995. His half brother, Crown Prince Abdullah, has been Saudi Arabia's de facto ruler since then, and is expected to become king should Fahd die.

Fahd's hospitalization triggered reports that an emergency had been declared in the kingdom. Officials said on condition of anonymity that an alert had been declared and that military leaves had been canceled or at least discouraged. However, this was firmly denied by the interior ministry. *AP*

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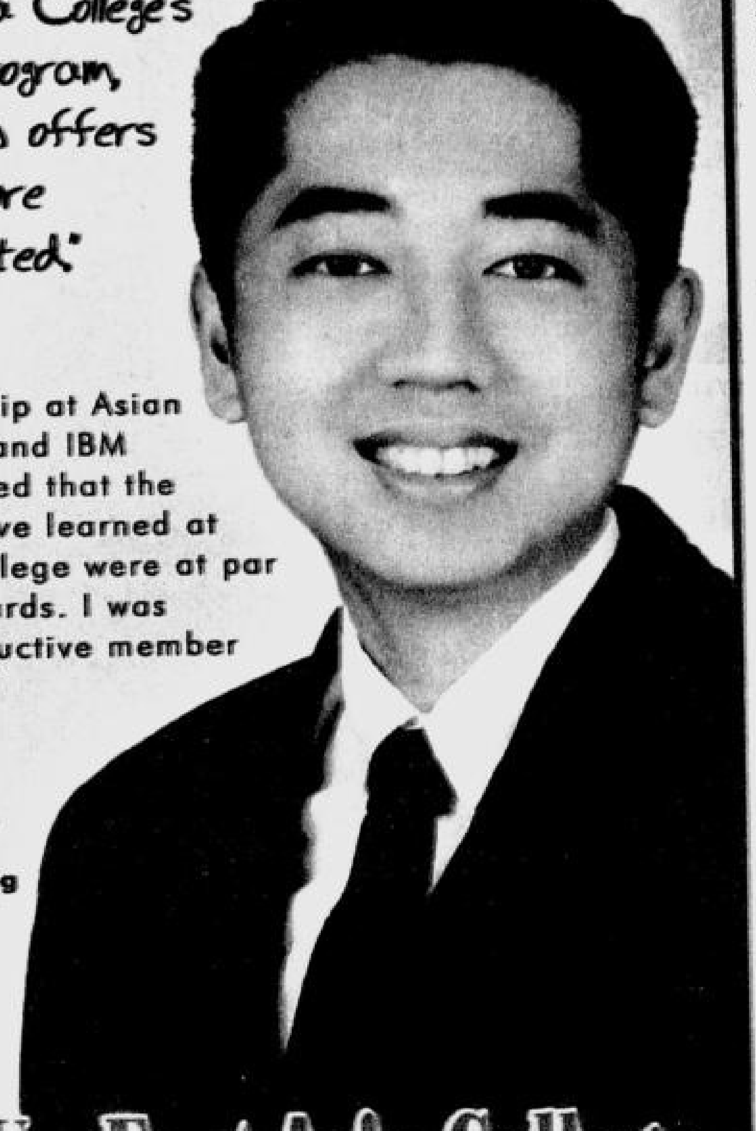

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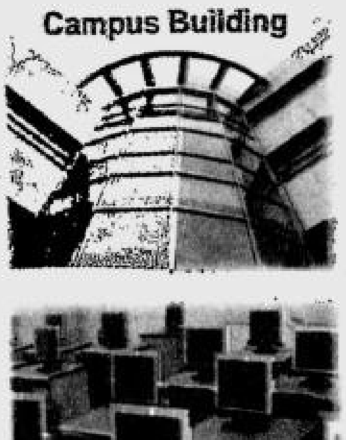
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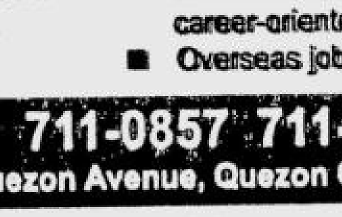
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OPINION

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Harder tasks ahead

EDITORIAL

IN THE IMMEDIATE aftermath of the enactment of the new value-added tax law, Fitch Ratings revised its outlook on the Philippines' long-term foreign and local currency ratings from "negative" to "stable." The revision reversed a series of successive credit-rating downgrades early this year. Bangko Sentral officials said they expected the improvement of the ratings to cut the government's borrowing costs.

Fitch said the expanded VAT law could help restore the country's fiscal stability over the medium term. "We have had to wait a long time for this package but it has been worth it," Brian Coulton, senior director of Fitch's sovereigns team in Asia, said. "The policy response that has taken shape is really quite something in the Philippines' historical context and should mark the turning point in the country's fiscal profile."

Bangko Sentral Deputy Gov. Amado Tetangco said the upgrade was "very positive news" and "is a recognition of the reforms in the fiscal sector." He said it could "signal a turning point in the country's rating toward an improvement as the government makes further progress in reducing the fiscal deficit and other economic reforms."

In policy terms, Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima said the revision "is telling us that we are on the right path and we should sustain and follow this through to make sure we come up with a more stable macro-economic environment." Now that the policy regime has been set and recognized by rating agencies and the World Bank, harder tasks lie ahead: reducing the deficit, improving the efficiency of tax collection, and tightening financial discipline in government corporations.

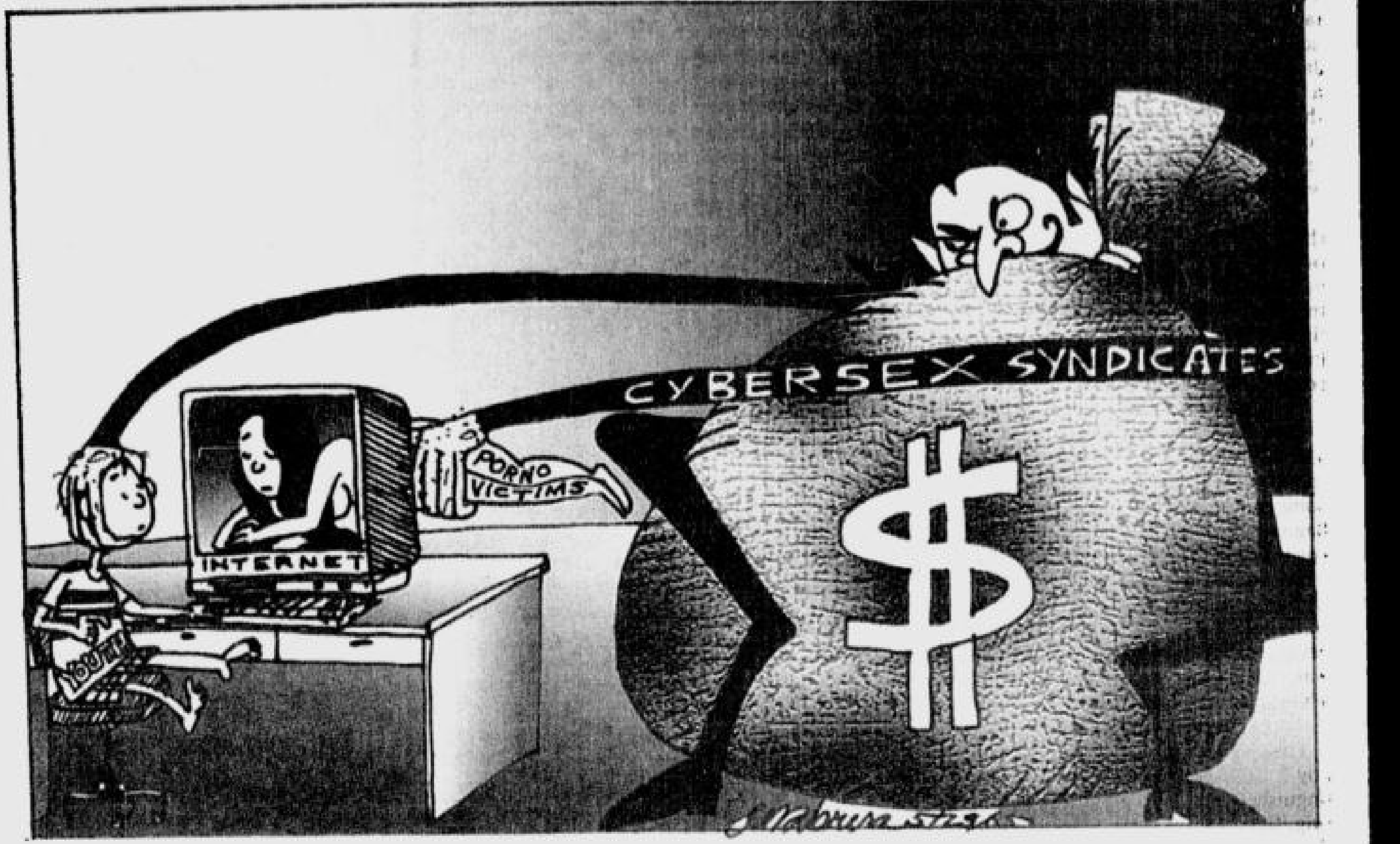
New laws increasing taxes cannot by themselves produce more revenues, and policies can easily be undermined by inefficient tax collection administration and machinery. There is danger that the importance of increasing efficiency in the tax collection effort would be sidelined on account of complacency stemming from the fact that the policy framework has been established.

The Arroyo administration cannot sit on its success in getting Congress to pass the new VAT law. While increases in sales taxes are inherently unpopular, a public opinion survey taken last March said two out of every three Filipinos would accept such increases provided—and this is an important caveat—the government "reduces corruption and wasteful spending." Nationwide and across all regions and socioeconomic classes, the survey by Pulse Asia detected conditional support for the new VAT legislation. Sixty-eight percent of the people surveyed nationwide said they would support an increase in taxes if government reduces corruption and waste in public spending; 42 percent said they would support the new VAT law if its negative impact on the poor "is not too large"; 41 percent would support it if the government removed tax exemptions for favored corporations and sectors of the economy; and another 41 percent would support it if the Bureaus of Internal Revenue and Customs improved their revenue collection.

The survey results send the strong message that reducing corruption and wasteful public spending is high up on the list of conditions for public support of VAT. The other conditions represent a demand for equitable sharing of the tax burden and improvement in the government's tax effort. In the survey, the desire to see an improvement in the tax effort was highest among high income and middle classes.

The effect of corruption and low tax efforts on the fiscal deficit crisis was pointed out by the 11 University of the Philippines economists in the paper they issued in August last year. "(It) is clear...that falling revenue and tax efforts have been the main reason for the worsening deficit picture since 1997," the paper said. "The tax effort, in particular, fell from a high of 17 percent of GDP in 1997 to only 12.5 percent by 2003. That this occurred even during the years of continuous, though moderate, economic growth strongly suggests that serious structural flaws have crept into the revenue system. It has been strongly suggested that much of this is due to rampant tax evasion abetted by a corrupt revenue administration."

Improving the collection effort constitutes the next important phase of the tax reform program. Continuing public support for the tax measures will depend largely on how well the tax collection agencies will perform



Jueteng and Malacañang

SEPARATE OPINION

Isagani A. Cruz

I FOR ONE, among millions of other Filipinos, am not impressed by President Gloria Macapagal Arroyo's sudden interest in the jueteng problem. The media have dutifully reported the presidential awakening, but only the inmates in the mental hospital must have been excited. Malacañang's indignant supposed concern over this widespread malady was at least belated and at worst deceptive.

Only the most gullible, assuming their sanity, could believe that as President of the Philippines, Ms Arroyo was unaware of this widespread evil that has gripped the nation. Even the ordinary citizen in the remotest barangay is familiar with it and has often bet on it along with other townspeople with limited means and inexhaustible hope. The sole exception, as her apologists would have us assume, is the chief enforcer of the laws of the land who has just risen from her deep dream of peace.

The mere fact that she comes from Pampanga, which is the hotbed of jueteng, should have alerted President Arroyo to the menace of this vice. It was, in fact, one of the serious causes that led to the ouster of President Estrada and her take-over of his office. There is also the undeniable fact that the alleged mastermind and chief operator of jueteng comes from the same province and must have been a principal contributor to her campaign fund. She claims she hardly knows Bong Pineda and you can believe it or not.

The reason Ms Arroyo has reacted with unconvincing wrath over the reports of the supposed resurgence of jueteng is the charge that she and her family are directly involved in it as its principal protectors and beneficiaries. Their take, it is claimed, amounts to millions of pesos in monthly payments. Mike Arroyo has taken a vacation in Singapore as his form of denial, and his son has promised to resign if his complicity is proved. The President has dignified the accusation by claiming she has not received a single centavo of jueteng payola.

In fairness, the charges have so far not been substantiated. Most of them sound rather wild with fantastic bribes regularly paid to congressmen, governors, mayors, provincial commanders and other officials. But you never can tell. Archbishop Oscar Cruz, one of the loudest accusers of the jueteng lords, has promised to present his evidence at the proper time, preferably at a Senate investigation. Sen. Aquilino Pimentel has also involved the administration in the jueteng corruption but admits he has as yet no evidence to prove it. Sen. Ping Lacson, not to be outdone, has also weighed in against the Arroyos.

An interesting sidelight in the projected Senate investigation is the plan of Sen. Lito Lapid to preside at the proceedings as chair of the committee on games, amusements and sports. Senator Pimentel has questioned his colleague's delicadeza as former governor of Pampanga that Nene has described as the "Vatican of jueteng" in a probably unintended slight of the Holy See. Lapid must be familiar, perhaps even intimately close, to Pineda and his gambling associates. This might make the legislative probe another useless *pakulo*.

I would question not only Lapid's expected partiality to the respondents but, more importantly, his competence. I do not believe he has the ability to preside at a Senate investigation, considering his limited intellectual credentials. In fact, I do not believe that Lapid is academically prepared to be a member of the Senate at all any more than his fellow actors Jinggoy Estrada and Bong Revilla are qualified to sit in that august chamber. They may say they have been elected by the people, but those who voted for them have also demonstrated their incompetence to exercise the right of suffrage.

Which brings me now to the suggestion of my good friend Conrado de Quiros that Gloria Macapagal Arroyo be impeached for betrayal of her high office. A worthy thought, to be sure, but it is certain to die a-borning. The reason is she is the President of the Philippines with all the powers and perquisites, not to say its intimidations and blandishment, at her command. There has never been a president here and in the United States who has been removed through the political method of impeachment.

With all the evidence against Joseph Estrada at his impeachment trial, his opponents in the Senate could not have mustered the 2/3 vote needed to remove him. It was Edsa II that panicked him and forced him to give up. With the present composition of the House of Representatives under the vacuous leadership of Speaker Jose de Venecia, even only a resolution to impeach President Arroyo cannot pass. A similar move was defeated against only Luz Tanjuaquio of the Commission on Elections, and the case against her was also strong.

Legalize jueteng as the Pampanga mayors suggest? Let's legalize the Abu Sayyaf too, and murder and plunder and rape and all other problems the government cannot solve.

Quiet mover

MOMENTS

Fr. Jerry M. Orbos, SVD

THE STORY is told about a priest who accompanied a convict to the electric chair. What was he to say to console a man about to die? "Goodbye"? "Take care"? "See you later"? All these seemed inappropriate, and he became desperate for the right words to say. Finally, as the convict got to the electric chair, the priest patted him on the head and said, "More power to you!"

* * *

In today's Gospel (Jn. 6, 51-58), Jesus said that whoever eats His flesh and drinks His blood will live forever. Just when the Jews were already beginning to believe in Him, He shocked them by blurting out something that was totally revolting and unacceptable. Just when people were beginning to understand, He shook their comfort zones, and led them to the realm of mystery and the unknown once again. In the Eucharist, we have a treasure whose depth and value we can never fully understand, but whose power is within our reach and always close at hand. Today, on the Feast of Corpus Christi, let us thank God for giving us the Eucharist. Though we do not, and will not ever fully understand, we believe that we have a treasure given unto us. May we learn to appreciate, love, and avail ourselves of this tremendous gift given to us.

* * *

In my last pilgrimage, Lalin Basilio brought our group to Corato, Italy, home of Luisa Piccarreta (known as the little daughter of the Divine Will), who for the most part of her life subsisted only on the Eucharist, i.e., taking Holy Communion literally as her food, not only for her soul but for her body as well. She carried the stigmata on her body and interceded for mankind while she was confined in her bed for 60 years. What made her able to do all that? Her "Fiat." "Thy will be done!" was her whole life and prayer. Those who really love the Eucharist end up becoming more obedient to God, and more loving to other people. I know of so many people who claim—and who are pictured—to be lovers of the Eucharist, and yet continue to disobey God, and hurt, steal, and fool people. How come? Because for them the Eucharist is something devotional and emotional, and they forget the fact that it is something actual, dynamic and real. The Eucharist should not only quiet us. It should also move and disturb us to greater and truer loving.

* * *

On the same recent pilgrimage, we were blessed to have witnessed in Naples the dried blood of St. Patrizia liquify before our very eyes. Many of us were in tears and were deeply touched. But again, where does that leave us? For a person can witness many miracles and wonders, but if it does not melt his or her hardened heart to love more, then it profits him or her nothing. The Eucharist should make us more grateful, more hopeful, more joyful, and more loving.

* * *

Before Holy Communion, we proclaim "Happy are we who are invited to His banquet," and yet many communicants receive the sacred host with sad, bored, and even angry faces. Even the priest and the ministers of the Eucharist have unhappy faces. It is time for us to rediscover not only love, but joy and hope as well in the Eucharist.

* * *

In the Philippines today, what we see is not only a famished but also a bloody body of Christ weighed down by so much poverty and corruption. Because of a privileged few leaders, politicians and business people, 80 million people continue to suffer. All because of a few people whose creed is greed. The Eucharist should remind us again to give, to share, and to be selfless. As someone beautifully once put it: "If everyone knows how to give, no one will ever be in need."

* * *

Bishop Emmanuel Cabajar of Pagadian actualized and personalized the Eucharist when he recently risked his very life to save 20 hostages. He even volunteered to drive in his vehicle the hostages and the hostage-takers. Thank God for the living Eucharists in our midst in the likes of Archbishop Oscar Cruz, Bishop Cabajar and many other nameless and faceless people who give God a name and a face in this our present day and time.

* * *

Inviting you to a pilgrimage to Naju Korea on the occasion of the 20th Anniversary of Our Lady of Naju from June 28 to July 3, 2005. I am an unworthy and grateful witness of Eucharistic miracles in Naju. I have also witnessed many physical, emotional, spiritual, and even relational healing in the context of the Eucharist. For inquiries, please call 7217457; 5238581 to 88.

* * *

Inviting you for the launching of our CD and cassette "Heartfelt Moments," which will start with a 6:30 p.m. Eucharistic celebration at Christ the King Seminary on June 12, 2005. This CD fulfills the dream of the 11-year-old blind girl Fatima (who turns 12 on that day) to be a singer and be able to see, someday. The proceeds of this CD will help Fatima and our 135 Filipino missionaries working overseas. It also fulfills a childhood dream in me to help inspire and bring people to a moment of prayer through songs and prayers I have composed through the years.

A moment with the Lord

Lord, may the Eucharist not only quiet me but also move me toward greater loving. Amen.

Death in the 'Third Dimension'

REVEILLE

Ramon J. Farolan

UP to the early years of the 20th century, warfare was basically fought along two dimensions—land and sea. But with the development of the flying machine by the Wright brothers in December 1903 and its use as a platform for launching attacks on an enemy, another dimension was added, radically transforming warfare forever. James Bradley in his bestseller "Flyboys," talks of a "Third Dimension"—the air. The introduction of this new parameter revolutionized the whole concept of armed conflict, resulting in the delivery of death and destruction beyond anything the world had experienced in the past.

Among aviators, there is a saying that unlike the land and the sea, the air is so unforgiving of mistakes or lapses in judgment. There is very little margin for error, and while it is a dimension that provides some of the greatest thrills of a lifetime, it is tempered by the knowledge that the slightest miscalculation could easily result in disaster.

* * *

Last week, a flight of Philippine Air Force T-41D trainer planes were on a cross-country navigation flight from Fernando Air Base, Lipa City. home of the PAF Flying School. After refueling in Baguio City, two of the aircraft took off from Loakan Airport on the way back to Batangas. The second, piloted by 1st Lt. Roberto Manlongat Jr., with student officers 1st Lts. Aristotle Anguluan Jr., Dennis Abaygar and Randy Gabriel on board, never made it. Shortly after takeoff, their aircraft was seen veering to the left and crashing against a hillside. There were no survivors.

* * *

The pilot, Lt. Roberto Manlongat Jr.—"Sonny Boy " to family and friends—comes from a distinguished family of warriors. His father, retired Brig. Gen. Roberto Manlongat, graduated from the PMA Class of 1963 and ended a brilliant military career as deputy chief of staff for operations (J-3) for the AFP. An uncle, also retired Brig. Gen. Thomas Manlongat, was my classmate at the PMA Class of 1956. After a short stint in the Air Force, he decided to make the Philippine Constabulary his home. He now serves as senior aide to his wife, Dr. Lourdes Manlongat. Another uncle, Army colonel William Manlongat, graduated from West Point Class of 1960. He opted for early retirement and is at present residing in Connecticut. Pio Manlongat, the middle boy in the family, joined the US Navy and retired as a chief petty officer. The youngest of the brothers is Commodore Justo Manlongat, Class of 1969. He left the service as Navy inspector general after a long stint in the intelligence branch of the armed forces.

The patriarch of the Manlongat clan, Pio Manlongat Sr. joined the US Navy as a teenager before World War I and saw action with the US Expeditionary Forces under Gen. John Pershing in Europe. Upon retirement, he settled down in Baguio City where he raised five boys and two girls. More than anything else, it was the prospect of a free college education which brought the Manlongat boys to the PMA.

In the case of Sonny Boy, the PMA represented more of a challenge rather than an ambition. He was born in Bangkok, Thailand in 1975 when his father was assigned as a civic action officer at the Southeast Asia Treaty Organization (SEATO) headquarters. It was the end of the Vietnam War and SEATO was being phased out from a military planning office to a more civilian-oriented institution. (For those not too familiar with SEATO, this was the brainchild of the late US secretary of state John Foster Dulles, who saw it as an alliance against communist advances in Southeast Asia.)

Sonny Boy flunked in his first attempt to enter the PMA. Two years at San Beda College provided him with a better foundation for his second try—this one successful. He graduated with the Class of 2000. His choice of branch of service was dictated by only one factor. The Manlongats were in all major services of the AFP except the Air Force. Here is where he could make a name for himself. Exactly 10 years to the day after he first met his beloved Abigail on a blind date, Sonny Boy's 'career would come to an end on the slopes of a mountain not far from his alma mater.

* * *

Lying in a closed casket at the Army mortuary in the Libingan ng mga Bayani is 1st Lt. Aristotle Anguluan Jr.—"Sunny Boy" to all who knew him. He was born close to high noon on a bright sunny day in September 1980, the youngest of three brothers. His father, Col. Aristotle Anguluan Sr., is currently the chief of staff of Central Command [Cemcom], which is based in Cebu City. Along with other members of his class, Sunny was on the last phase of flying training, a few months prior to graduation. But his thoughts were some place else. He was looking forward to a more personal event of happiness and satisfaction. In two weeks' time, his parents would be carrying out the traditional "*pamanhikan*" to ask for the hand of a lovely young lady, Mary Ann Marquez, a schoolmate at Mapua High where Sunny was commander of the high school corps of cadets. The date for the wedding had already been set—December 17 at the Nuestra Señora de Gracia cathedral in Guadalupe, Makati City

* * *

Lt. Dennis Abaygar was buried in Baguio City; Randy Gabriel in Bulacan. I was unable to condole with their families. As a former chief of the Air Force, nothing could be more painful and saddening as the loss of these young boys who represented the best hopes of our nation.

'Tana Ha Tacloban!'

AT LARGE

Rina Jimenez-David

TACLOBAN—"Until now, I still cannot believe this is happening!" exclaimed a tired but exhilarated Tita Ansing Jimenez, our host in this southern city, as she took in the swirling mass of Jimenezes around her, busy demolishing the picnic lunch buffet she had prepared.

For years, Tita Ansing, the widow of our uncle Titong, had been convincing the rest of the clan to "bring" our annual Flores de Mayo celebrations to her hometown, the "second hometown" of this particular branch of the Jimenez clan that finds its roots in Sorsogon, Sorsogon.

My grandparents, Ponso and Pacita Tabuena Jimenez, had led a peripatetic life, raising their eight children in different parts of the country as a provincial treasurer. At the time the war broke out, they and their younger children were stationed here, and it was to Tacloban that the rest of the family flocked to wait out the war. One of them was Titong, who had been deployed as a young army officer to Bataan, survived the Death March, accompanied his sister and brothers on a risky sea voyage to Tacloban, and then promptly joined the guerrillas. He was forced to surrender, however, when the Japanese arrested Lolo Ponso and threatened to keep him inside a cramped isolation cell unless his son turned himself in. Put to work as the assistant provincial engineer, Titong put his idle time to good use by courting Ansing, the only daughter of an influential Tacloban lawyer (and later a judge), and managed to win her hand despite her father's strong objections. Titong and Ansing's love story is brief. He died just over a month after their wedding, when the truck he and his construction crew were riding was ambushed by guerrillas.

* * *

BUT it is not just Titong's sacrifice that gives Tacloban so special a place in our family history. It is here, too that three other Jimenezes met their spouses: Tita Carol, who married the young doctor Nalding Pascual as a result of their mothers' collusion; Tito Toto, who met Dida Quintero in the course of numerous socials hosted by the smart young set and who won her heart when she saw how devoted he was to his mother; and Tito Ramy, who met Flor Reyes in an evacuation camp (her father was the PC commander) and pursued her after the war all the way to her native Cavite.

As Tita Ansing put it: "Imagine, four of eight children met their match in Tacloban! We Taclobanons are really good at getting what we want!"

As I write this, all 51 of us who managed to make the trip are preparing to go on a city tour that will bring us not just to tourist spots but to places of significance to our family: the bridge where Tito Titong and his men were ambushed, the beach where Tito Ramy and Tita Flor met, the home where the Jimenezes lived during the war, the first homes of the Tacloban-based couples, and the cathedral where they went to Mass. And then, of course, we will hold our "Flores" novena and Mass, after which Tita Ansing will host a dinner to be attended by family friends, including Tio Titong's sole surviving friend from the war.

A major highlight is the arrival of Tita Dida, who now lives in Los Angeles and who last visited the country 15 years ago. Over breakfast, Tito Ramy was plotting a surprise welcome at the airport, ensuring that another Jimenez tradition—the penchant for springing pleasant surprises on each other—lives on.

* * *

IN BETWEEN taking voyages down the sea lanes of memory and heeding religious obligations, this weekend in Tacloban has also been an opportunity for bonding among aunts and uncles, cousins, in-laws and the few *bagets* who braved potential boredom and continue to endure the constant company of adults.

Tito Ramy, for instance, has been brought back to his days as a teenager in Tacloban, regaling us with tales of the "Can Do" (pronounced as "can-doh," he insisted) Club, the association of young toughies that he headed because he didn't "belong" to the club of young Ateneans to which his brother Toto belonged. To show off his credentials to head the "Can Do" Club, Tito Ramy re-created his own alcoholic concoction: sugar and calamansi juice mixed with tuba, which he insisted we share with him in endless toasts, making all of us extraordinarily cheerful the rest of the afternoon.

But we don't really need tuba or other stimulants to make the most of this visit to Tacloban, the city that captured the hearts of the Jimenezes and now plays host to our collective memories. As our souvenir t-shirts say: *Tana Ha Tacloban!* (Let's Go to Tacloban!), it's time to get to know our family's second hometown!

* * *

QUITE a shocker was the news I received earlier this week about the death of PSupt. Francisco "Frank" Baraquel Jr., whom I knew mainly as the husband of Risa Hontiveros Baraquel, Akbayan party-list representative and a sister and friend in Pilipina.

What made the news shocking was that Frank, who had been assigned to Baguio, died as a result of cardiac arrest after an attack of asthma. This is not news one expects to hear about a healthy 43-year old police officer and PMA graduate (he belonged to the Class of 1986). "This is not supposed to happen," was how Risa put it to me.

I could well understand how hard the news must have hit Risa. As the wife of a police officer, she had surely steeled herself to the dangers he faced in the light of duty, the threats to his physical safety. But to lose him because of a heart attack, at such a young age?

My prayers go to Risa and her three young children, as well as the rest of Frank and Risa's family, that they find strength in the coming days and years, not just to accept their loss but also to give meaning and fulfillment to Frank's dreams for and commitment to his country.

Sociology of 'jueteng'

PUBLIC LIVES

Randy David

SURELY there are more important things to talk about these days than this illegal poor man's lottery that is hogging the headlines. And surely, we have far more pressing tasks before us than going after local gambling lords and tracking down their powerful protectors. So, why are we allowing ourselves to be distracted and agitated over *jueteng*?

The answer has little to do with the nature of the game itself. It has everything to do with what it signifies and what functions it plays in the complex patronage system we call Philippine society. It is reasonable for those with little knowledge of the role of *jueteng* in the local world of politics and governance not to sympathize with the uproar that is generated by this seemingly insignificant game. But perhaps, recalling its connection to recent political events may help explain some of the noise. More important, understanding the sociology of *jueteng* may shed light on the extraordinary influence that gambling lords wield in our political system.

Jueteng has become the symbol of corruption in our society. It will be remembered that it was the unmasking of President Joseph "Erap" Estrada as the country's biggest *jueteng* protector and beneficiary that triggered his ouster as president in 2001 and paved the way for the succession of Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo to the presidency. Yet *jueteng* quietly flourished even more after Erap was thrown out. It may be assumed that it found new protectors in the Arroyo administration.

If convincing proof is produced that Ms Arroyo or any of her close relatives profited from *jueteng*, or had a direct hand in its preservation, the scandal would be sufficient to strip her of any moral standing as President. This would make her vulnerable to more charges like electoral fraud and misuse of public funds. Battered by record-low approval ratings, the lowest for any sitting President, she would have a tough time staying in office.

The daily take from this game runs into hundreds of millions of pesos. The bets are collected from poor people who gamble their last pesos for the tiny chance of hitting the pot. The bet collectors are a tight network of resourceful cadres that roam the communities at least twice a day, going down to the level of the household. This is a convertible system that is utilized for a variety of purposes depending on the need—monitor the political leanings of households, solicit or buy votes, distribute campaign leaflets, exchange foreign currency, remit OFW earnings to families, or even retail illegal drugs.

The tremendous profitability and illicit nature of the enterprise invite harassment and protection from those who are assigned to enforce the law. It is easy for the police and local authorities to turn a blind eye on *jueteng* because this form of gambling is generally viewed as a "victimless" offense. The bettors who lose their money do not feel exploited or injured. The fact that the government runs its own lottery and casinos virtually washes away the wrongness of the whole game.

Jueteng has its own rationality. There are few forms of illicit income in our culture that are as widely shared as the take from jueteng. Bet collectors or *cobradores* and their *cabos*, an assortment of individuals with little education or qualification for any other job, keep 15 centavos of every peso they collect. Policemen get an untaxed cost-of-living allowance from *jueteng* that is regularly added to their salary. Mayors, congressmen and governors are offered an allowance they can spend on their personal charities and vices, without having to account for it.

Some priests and bishops are allotted their share of the *jueteng* largesse on special occasions. Gambling operators may not be pious, but they are superstitious, and so it is not uncommon for many churches to be built on a generous dose of *jueteng* money. The *jueteng* lord is a small-town mafia don who makes and unmakes local politicians. In some provinces, he himself or a close relative becomes an important politician.

The gambling lord inhabits the underside of our formal political and legal system, exploiting the weaknesses formed by the despair and dependence of a large number of our people who are not adequately served by our institutions. With the resources he commands, he creates a network of loyalties founded on debt of gratitude. He is like a little president with his own version of the President's Social Fund which, interestingly, is also sourced from gambling. In his case, at least, he does not use government funds.

Jueteng persists because of the many things it makes possible, not the least of which is the provision of a broad range of benefits and forms of assistance to a growing segment of the population. It is illegal but it is not viewed as immoral. Hence, no moral stigma is borne by its players. It places in the hands of a few practical operators a big amount of undeclared and untaxed wealth that is used to subsidize the requirements of a social order based on patron-client ties.

Declaring a *jueteng*-free Philippines is pure twaddle. The seasonal campaign against it may freeze betting for a while and weed out the small operators. But the game itself will not go away so long as a large number of the poor pin their daily hopes on luck rather than on hard work, and so long as politicians rely on patronage rather than on competence to get elected. The answer to *jueteng* lies in the provision of real jobs, not in the building of a casino economy; in the modernization of governance, not in the perpetuation of patronage.

(Comments to public.lives@gmail.com)

Deception

COMMENTARY

Luis V. Teodoro

WHATEVER the Arroyo administration calls it, the identification system that Executive Order 420 would put in place is the same as the system that Administrative Order 308 wanted to create.

President Macapagal-Arroyo justifies the creation of a "unified" ID system as a means of "streamlining" existing government ID systems, not for counter-terrorism and counter-insurgency.

But despite that intentionally innocuous justification, and the vague "safeguards" EO 420 contains, the system would create a central data base as AO 308 would do—and assign a number to every Filipino as AO 308 planned to.

AO 308 was issued by then President Fidel V. Ramos in 1996. The Supreme Court declared it unconstitutional, ruling in the Ople vs Torres et al. case that a national ID system required legislation by Congress and was beyond the legal powers of the President to create. Equally important, the court also declared that such a system would violate the individual right to privacy.

The effort to distinguish EO 420 from AO 308 is obvious, however.

EO 420 designates the National Economic and Development Authority, rather than the National Computer Center, as the system secretariat. Instead of the "computerized identification reference system" in AO 308, EO 420 would create a "unified multi-purpose identification system." AO 308's "Population Reference Number" is EO 420's "Common Reference Number."

Unlike AO 308, EO 420 limits the data to be collected in the card to 14 items (name, home address, sex, picture, signature, date of birth, place of birth, marital status, names of parents, height, weight, two index-finger and two thumb prints, distinguishing features, and tax identification number). This limit is supposed to protect privacy. But any transaction or involvement with a government agency is likely to be recorded in the card anyway, and various agencies will want to include their own data on the holder in it.

The legal questions are obvious. What makes EO 420 a mere executive order while AO 308 was a law? And would the right to privacy indeed be protected by the "safeguards" in EO 420?

But its doubtful legality is not the order's only flaw. There is cost, which has been estimated at a fiscally critical P10 billion. There is also the system's probable—its certain—use against dissenters and critics of government, including members of the opposition.

Isn't the government in the throes of a fiscal crisis in the first place? But Neda argues that the system would only use funds available from the agencies that would implement the order, which are Neda, the National Statistics Office, the Land Transportation Office, PhilHealth, the Social Security System and the Government Service Insurance System.

If no amount in the vicinity of P10 billion will indeed be spent—meaning, no Malacañang-favored contractor will reap that huge bounty—the system that will result will be far from reliable.

A credible system will require a central data base that will be expensive to create and maintain. From this base, any information on every ID card issued may be accessed. It will require computer terminals in every government agency. Police vehicles will have to be equipped with onboard computers—otherwise, just to verify the identity of a traffic rule violator, the police will have to haul him off to the nearest police station.

Of critical import is the system's making human rights abuses far easier to commit. What happens, for example, to the individual who forgets his card, or loses it, and is apprehended at a police checkpoint in the war zones of Basilan or Isabela? And what of the individual whose card contains derogatory information? What of those who can't afford to pay for a card—or whose birth dates cannot be determined, or who can't name their fathers?

Given the mindset of the police and the military, it is not difficult to imagine the predicament of someone caught without a card—or whose card identifies him as a journalist and/or a member of an organization the police and the military regard as an "enemy of the state"—could get into. Arrest, arbitrary detention and torture—still realities in this earthly paradise in the 21st century—would be high in the list of possibilities.

It is equally possible for the card to be used for partisan and other sinister purposes. As data in the cards inflate, the central data base would have information damaging to individuals who may not be terrorists or criminals, but who would have every reason, for example, to conceal their having illegitimate children or their cohabiting with someone without the benefit of clergy. What is to prevent unscrupulous employees at the central data base from using the information, to which they have access, to blackmail individuals, or to sell information about a politician to a rival?

On the other hand, the same employees can sell IDs and reference numbers to whoever can pay for them—assuming, of course, that the cards cannot be forged in the first place. The system could create an information black market in support of extortion, harassment and intimidation.

In addition to the cost of a reliable system, the possibility that a card can be forged in today's high-tech environment was among several reasons why the United States government decided not to create a national ID system despite Sept. 11, 2001.

Once a card is forged, complete with details that can be verified from the central data base, the holder could pass through security checkpoints. If he is a terrorist or criminal, the card would in effect help facilitate terrorist acts and criminality.

But Neda insists that the system is not meant to support the government campaign against so-called terrorism. This is disingenuous at best and deceptive at worst.

Once an ID system as outlined in the order is in place, its morphing into an instrument of oppression is certain. But the element of deception—the effort to paper over the threat it poses to the right to privacy and other rights—is so obvious in EO 420 and the statements of administration officials, that one is hard put to determine why the deception and why the rush. The only possible answer is that the government cannot defend EO 420 in the bright light of day and in the theater of reasoned public debate.

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TALK of the TOWN

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Editor Juan V. Sarmiento Jr.

Why are Filipino kids not learning?

FILIPINO elementary and high school students are not dumb, but they have consistently obtained scores below the international average in Math and Science. They have also fared poorly in the National Achievement Test (NAT, which is given to fourth year high school students), in the High School Readiness Test (HSRT, given to first year students) and in other evaluation tests.

Students around the country have flunked the tests in Math, Science and English.

Most high school seniors can neither understand what they are reading nor do the necessary calculations to solve scientific problems. Their ability to think conceptually and spatially is also weak.

This dismal performance has been attributed to problems such as overcrowded classrooms, poorly trained teachers and lack of textbooks.

Because of the shortage of public school teachers, physical and health education instructors are forced to teach core subjects such as English, Math and Science. Education Secretary Florencio Abad says most of the educators teaching English, Math and Science in public schools do not have skills to handle these subjects.

The problems plaguing the public school system are largely due to the decrease in real terms of the budget for education. Government spends only about P10 per elementary pupil and P35 per secondary student a month. This amount may further decline because of inflation and the increase in student population because of the transfer of students from private to public schools.

Unless more funds are funneled into education, public school students will continue to fare poorly in Math, Science and English—subjects that Filipinos must excel in to survive and thrive in the highly competitive global market.

What needs to be done

By Juan Miguel Luz

Despite the constitutional mandate to spend the largest share of the national budget on education, the achievement test results reflect, in general, the low level of learning on the part of most Filipino public school children.

Why are our students doing so badly in national achievement tests and in international comparative survey tests?

In March 2004, all fourth year high school students were given a National Achievement Test (NAT) in English, Science and Math as a way of determining their levels of preparation for university or the world of work.

Only 6.8 percent of the seniors tested passed the English test with a score of at least 75 percent. It was higher for Math with 12.9 percent passing, but was terrible for Science with less than 1 in 100 (0.7 percent) students scoring 75 percent or better.

Overall, only 2.1 percent of all high school seniors made the passing grade of 75 percent (one-third of all seniors would have passed if 50 percent was the passing grade). The average score for English was 50.1 percent, for Science 36.8 percent and for Math 46.2 percent, versus the benchmark passing grade of 75 percent.

Readiness test

Similarly, in July 2002 and 2003 and again in May 2004, the Department of Education (DepEd) tested all high school (HS I) freshmen in the same three subjects. The High School Readiness Test (HSRT), called the National Diagnostic Test or NDT in 2002 and 2003, tested more than 1.3 million students aged 12 to 13.

The three years of testing revealed similar results. In the 2004 HSRT, less than one percent (0.52 percent) managed a score 75 percent or better in all three subject areas. If 50 percent (percent answered correctly) were the passing mark, only 7.4 percent of the incoming freshmen passed. And in all three test years, the median score was a low 30 percent (answered correctly). In the English test, only 18 out of every 100 examinees passed; in Science (10 out of 100); and, in Math (8 out of 100).

What was the passing grade for at least half of the students entering HS I? It was about 34 percent in English, 25 to 29 percent in Math and 30 to 34 percent in Science. It was 30 percent for the entire test.

International tests

In the one international comparative survey test the Philippines participates in (Trends in International Math and Science Survey), Filipino school children fared poorly in the 1998 and 2003 tests. Widely quoted, the Philippines was 36 out of 39 countries with an average significantly lower than the international average in Math in the 1998 test. In Science, the results were similar.

In 2003, out of 45 countries that participated in TIMSS+, the Philippines ranked 41 based on the average scores of HS II that were tested in Math. Again, the Science scores were similar. And again, the country average was significantly lower than the international average in both tests.

Clearly, these scores are not levels of learning that will help our children become productive adults. We, as a country, cannot allow this to continue if we are to build a foundation for development, growth and equity to deal with our many problems that range from eradicating poverty to being internationally competitive.

What has happened over the years? Comparing the old NSAT (National Secondary Achievement Test) tests for high school seniors in the 1990s with the last NAT in 2004, proficiency in English has improved marginally though Science and Math worsened.

What were high school seniors particularly weak at?

Weakest areas

In English, there is real difficulty in inference, interpretation of information, deduction of meaning, drawing conclusions and summarizing ideas. This is a problem of comprehension.

High school graduates are not understanding what they are reading. Neither are they developing proficiency in the language. So, they cannot put together coherent ideas to explain themselves or articulate what they want to say whether verbally or in writing. In short, they are grossly deficient in basic and higher order thinking.

In Science, all areas are not being mastered. This ranges from understanding or internalizing scientific data and information, to explaining specific scientific theory or laws, to being able to do the necessary calculations to solve scientific problems or to substantiate theory. Physics, in particular, is weakest among the sciences. This is not surprising since the number of physics majors is the smallest among public high school science teachers.

In Mathematics, high school seniors have the most difficulty in using formulae to solve specific problems or to calculate certain results. The ability to manipulate numbers and equations (e.g. algebra) is weak. The ability to think conceptually and spatially (i.e. geometry and trigonometry) is even weaker. Problem solving using mathematical concepts and established logic and equations is poor.

Causes

For the incoming high school freshmen, the results are even more glaring reflecting their poor level of preparation for high school. All competencies in English, Science or Math are not being mastered by the vast majority of our elementary school graduates.

Why is there so little learning? What explains the low level of achievement?

A number of reasons may explain such poor performance. Among the underlying causes are poorly trained teachers, inadequate funding, overcrowded classrooms and the lack of textbooks and other instructional materials. In short, the usual suspects. But if this were always the case, why do some schools and students do well even if they face the same constraints?

In looking at low levels of learning, DepEd began to look at the areas of weakness of students. The most glaring is the low levels of reading.

In the city schools division of Manila, the Philippine Informal Reading Inventory test was given to students at all elementary grade levels. At the Grade 6 level, less than 3 out of every 10 students (28.83 percent) were independent readers, with over one-third (36.50 percent) being frustrated readers or readers with serious reading difficulties. The remainder were slightly below the Grade 6 level of competency in reading.

To discover the reasons of poor achievement among incoming freshmen, a survey of their reading levels was likewise done following the 2002 NDT test. The initial conclusions: incoming HS students in Metro Manila were reading at the late Grade 4 and early Grade 5 levels or about two years behind in terms of their age and grade levels. Little wonder then that our public secondary students fared poorly in the readiness and achievement tests.

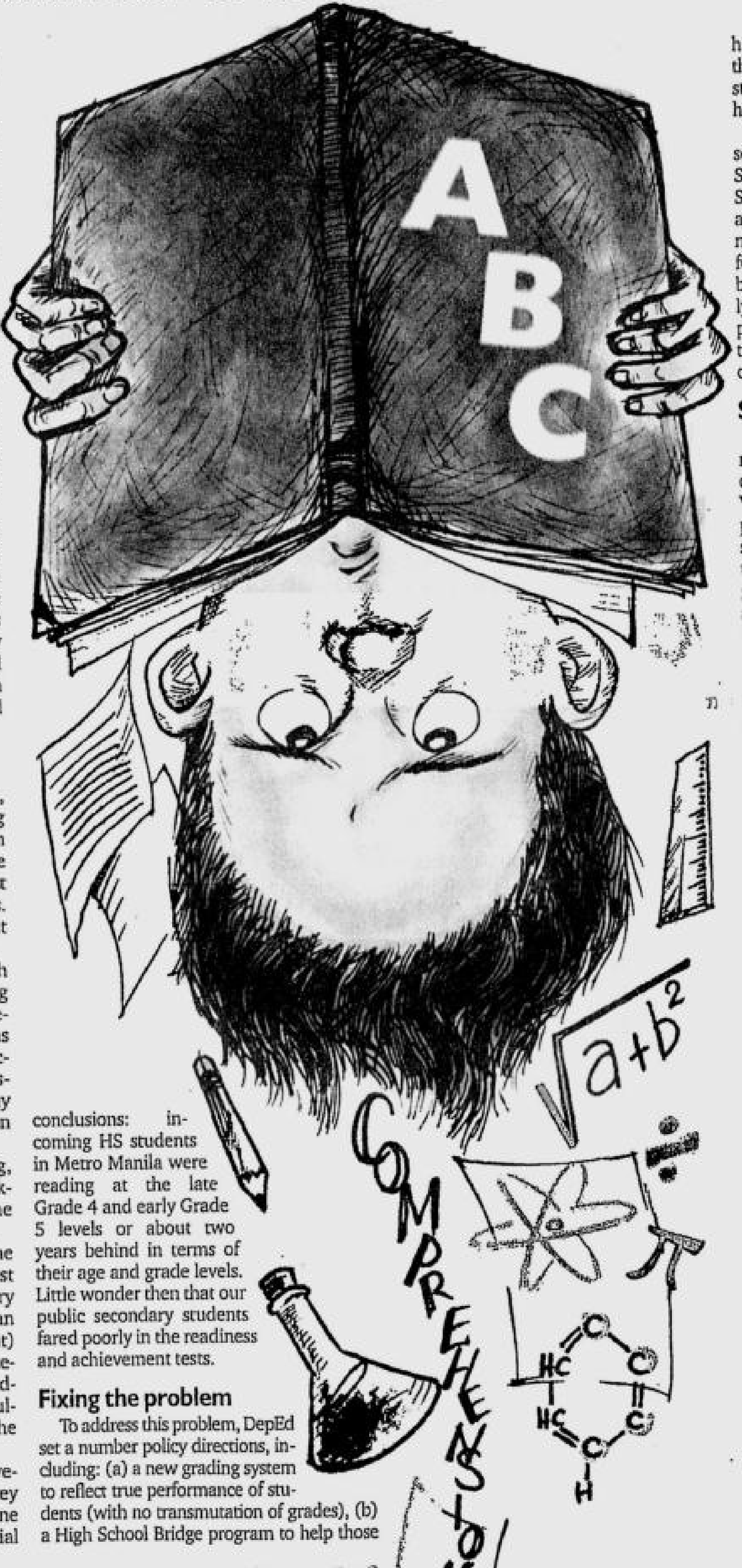

ILLUSTRATION AND PAGE DESIGN BY ALBERT G. RODRIGUEZ

Fixing the problem

To address this problem, DepEd set a number policy directions, including: (a) a new grading system to reflect true performance of students (with no transmutation of grades), (b) a High School Bridge program to help those that need help the most, and (c) "Every Child a Reader (by Grade 3)" program.

The High School Bridge is a one-year remedial program for incoming freshmen designed to correct the low levels of learning early, rather than late, in a child's education career (at age 12 to 13 years). The program focuses on improving three subject areas—English, Math and Science—and is intended for students who did not meet the cutoff score in the HSRT.

The permanent solution to this learning deficiency is to make "Every Child a Reader" starting at the elementary level. For this, DepEd has embarked on a program to make every child a reader by Grade 3 and to address the problem of poor learning achievement in the formative years, including preschool. This will take time to bear fruit, however, and it will be a number of years before we see achievement test scores improve dramatically. But it must start with raising the level of independent readers at the end of the elementary cycle from less than 30 percent to 100 percent.

Bright spots

Amid the sad news are bright spots in the system. It is important to highlight these to show that our public education system have good teachers and good schools. That they work under the same resource constraints as all other schools should give us hope that change is possible.

In the 2004 NAT for graduating high school seniors, it was a small Northern Samar school—Lope de Vega National High School—that topped the test with an average test score of 86.67 percent versus the national average of 44.36 percent. Over four hours away from the provincial capital by extremely rough roads, this school of only 474 students and just over 100 seniors proves that lack of resources can be more than made up for by quality teaching and community support.

Size matters

In the 2004 NAT for high school seniors, eight of the top 25 high schools came from Region VIII (Eastern Visayas)—a region known more for its poverty and lack of development. Five schools came from Region I (Ilocos) and three coming from Region XIII (Caraga). None of the top performing high schools came from the larger schools in Metro Manila.

What accounts for the success of these schools? Clearly, size matters. In this case, all were smaller schools with small class sizes allowing for better interaction between students and teachers.

The teacher-student relationship more than made up for the lack of materials. And community support, especially in allowing students to stay in school even for remedial work, was critical. (By the same token, it would be difficult for the overcrowded, multi-shift schools in Metro Manila and Regions IV-A and III to score well when the learning environment is cramped and uncomfortable.)

Mentoring program

Lope de Vega had an active mentoring program to help poor-performing students catch up with the subjects they would fall behind in. In fact, given the difficult home situation of most of the students, the school scheduled a schoolwork period at the end of each day rather than assign homework, which would probably not be done given the poor home conditions of the children.

In the 2003 NDT for Grade 4 pupils, the highest performing school was Caburacan Elementary School in Sorsogon (Region V) with only 98 pupils. It was one of two schools that scored 100 percent in reading comprehension and science. The other school was the Bacalto Primary School in Sultan Kudarat (Region XII).

In that same test, special mention has to be given to the schools division of Pangasinan II based in Binalonan. Twenty-one elementary schools from this division were among the top 26 schools in the test, many of which had perfect scores in the reading comprehension sub-test.

There are those who will say that Philippine education as a system has failed. And it has.

Basics

We have analyzed and overanalyzed the problem to death over the past two decades. It is no longer about identifying the problem. It is now about providing system-wide solutions. Clearly, reading is at the core of this learning problem.

The Bridge Program, the "Every Child a Reader" program, the Schools First Initiative are all about quality and giving a long-term advantage to our Filipino public school children. This can be achieved by keeping short the schooling of children, especially from lower-income families.

This can be attained by giving them more education in the basics and building a foundation of self-learning skills—reading, writing and 'rithmetic—to help them become better learners for life. Only then will they have a meaningful life—a lifetime of productivity and competitiveness and the quality of life that comes with that.

(Luz is an education undersecretary and associate professor at the Asian Institute of Management [on-leave].)

Top 20 public high schools by test score [illegible]

School name	English	Science	Math
1. Lope de Vega National High School (Northern Samar)	87.38 %	81.00 %	91.62 %
2. Tumauini NHS (Isabela)	80.38	81.77	95.96
3. Rustico Capahi Sr. MNHS (Ormoc City)	83.62	77.33	94.25
4. Alabel NHS (Sarangani)	80.64	73.09	94.46
5. Hipona NHS (Capiz)	79.91	76.90	89.66
6. Quinapundan NHS (Eastern Samar)	88.29	70.63	86.14
7. Narciso Ramos NHS (Binalonan, Pangasinan)	81.05	67.92	95.45
8. Lipa City NHS (Lipa City)	81.62	69.43	92.06
9. Tandoc NHS (San Carlos City)	86.73	59.28	94.02
10. Regional Science HS (La Union)	82.00	65.79	91.61
11. Magsikap NHS (Occidental Mindoro)	73.30	80.80	85.22
12. Victoria NHS (Northern Samar)	77.44	71.57	90.27
13. San Juan NHS Alaminos (Laguna)	83.83	65.75	88.74
14. Alegria NHS (Northern Samar)	82.66	58.54	97.04
15. Canipaan NHS (Southern Leyte)	80.45	62.67	95.09
16. Divisoria NHS (Southern Leyte)	79.17	70.09	88.48
17. Pangalagan NHS (San Carlos City)	85.61	55.53	95.60
18. Malimono HS (Surigao del Norte)	83.01	67.92	84.95
19. Medellin NSTS (Cebu)	78.66	62.92	93.38
20. Lapinigan NHS (Agusan del Sur)	67.49	78.68	88.09

SOURCE: DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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1 cop dead in clash of 2 police teams

BIÑAN, Laguna—A team of policemen from Manila clashed with policemen of this town over alleged extortion, resulting in the death of one of the Manila policemen.

Supt. Clifton Empiso, Biñan police chief, identified the lone fatality as PO1 Edades Latorre Ancheta, an active member of the National Capital Region Police Office (NCRPO), who died from a single bullet wound in the head.

The encounter was the second incident in Calabarzon involving law enforcers following a gunfight between a policeman and a group of soldiers inside a girlie bar in Lipa City on Thursday, which resulted in the death of three people, including a cop and an Army sergeant.

Empiso said that at around 3:15 p.m., police received a telephone call from a resident of Barangay Casile seeking assistance after 13 unidentified armed men in civilian attire allegedly raided several houses in the area.

'Fruit game'

The caller, Empiso said, told them that the gun-wielding men were looking for "fruit game" video machines, a gambling machine similar to a slot machine, and video "karera" (racing) machines.

"I was alarmed by the call because I know there were no legitimate antigambling operations there. So I dispatched all my available men to secure the area," Empiso told the INQUIRER.

He said the presence of the armed men in the slum area caused residents to panic and run outside their houses.

He said 15 members of the local police immediately went to the area to check the report but were met with gunshots, triggering a gunfight.

The suspects were then able to escape on board an L300 van and a jeep but the local police chased them.

The suspects in the van were cornered in a roadblock set up by the local policemen in the boundary of Barangays Malaban and San Antonio.

When they alighted from the vehicle, Empiso said they were surprised as the armed men identified themselves as police officers.

The van passengers were Chief Insp. Romeo Ngoho, an Evangelical pastor assigned at the chaplain service of the PNP headquarters in Camp Crame; PO3 Robert Eblahan, detailed at the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group (CIDG); and civilian Fernando Empeño.

Escape

The other group of suspects on board the jeep tried to escape on foot but were pursued by the local police in a gunfight in the murky waters off Laguna Lake.

Sensing that they were overpowered, the suspects turned themselves in, Empiso said.

They later identified themselves as PO1 Jay Ilagan of the NCRPO, PO1 Oliver Maza of CIDG and civilian Joel Yabes.

Policemen retrieved Ancheta's body from the lake and rushed him to the nearby University of Perpetual Help Hospital where he was declared dead on arrival.

"My men wouldn't shoot if they (the suspects) didn't fire first," Empiso said.

He said the suspects were rogue cops whose modus operandi was to arrest operators of gambling machines and release them after paying extortion money.

He said the suspects' operations and presence in the area were illegitimate.

He said the group failed to show even a single paper of their mission order.

"If they were really on a legal mission, then why did they fail to coordinate with us? They are plain rogue cops," he said. *Marlon Ramos, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Army says NPA camp overrun

TANDAG, Surigao del Sur—Soldiers overran a training camp of New People's Army rebels in Barangay Sibahay here Thursday, the military said.

Lt. Col. James Jacob, commander of the Army's 58th Infantry Battalion, said two NPA rebels were also killed while dozens of others were injured in the gunfight that started late Thursday afternoon.

He said the clash ensued when Army soldiers sprang an attack on the rebels, numbering about 100, in Sitio Libas.

"No soldier was hurt in the operations, which started around 4:00 p.m. Thursday," he said.

2Lt. Elmer Mendez, commander of the troops, said they also seized at least 10 land mines, two hand grenades, two cell phones, a .45 cal. pistol, a camera, more than 20 sacks of rice and other foodstuff and communist documents.

Jacob said the NPA Sibahay camp was the fourth camp captured by the military since the start of the offensive last week.

The military has been combing the hinterlands of Surigao del Sur since late last month as it intensified its anti-insurgency campaign.

Human rights groups said the military operations, which has displaced close to 2,000 people, were being conducted to ease the entry of mining firms in Andap Valley. *Bert Pacate, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

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BCDA tells revenue officers to stay away from ecozones

BAGUIO CITY—The Bases Conversion Development Authority has asked the Bureau of Internal Revenue to stay away from all BCDA-administered economic zones until the Supreme Court acts on its appeal on a resolution voiding the tax benefits given to the Camp John Hay economic zone.

Lawyer Lyssa Pagano-Calde, BCDA spokesperson, said the BCDA is now intervening on behalf of Camp John Hay Development Corp. (CJHDevco) and other economic zone locators because the government is still asking the high court to reconsider a March 29 resolution that nullified the tax benefits given to Camp John Hay.

Congress' power

The court ruled in 2003 that only Congress could grant tax exemptions to BCDA economic zones, except for the Subic Special Economic Zone, which was created by Republic Act 7227 or the BCDA law.

The decision affects the economic zones of Camp John Hay, Poro Point in La Union and the former Clark Air Base.

The court issued a resolution on March 29, affirming the same decision with finality.

Secretary Edgardo Pamintuan, presidential adviser for external affairs, said Finance Secretary Cesar Purisima had agreed in principle "to defer the collection of (back) taxes from the special economic zones in Clark, Poro Point and others."

The BCDA law will be amended by a provision in a consolidated investment bill that grants BCDA special economic zones "the same benefits and privileges as the Subic SEZ and by condoning taxes that may have accrued prior to the Supreme Court decision," he said.

The BCDA has been feuding publicly with CJHDevco over the agency's decision to terminate its Camp John Hay contract in the light of the court ruling.

But Calde said the BCDA chose to protect CJHDevco and other officials. BCDA Chair Filodelfo Roxas Jr. and BCDA president Narciso Abaya have terminated the CJHDevco contract but the BCDA board is considering a rebidding of the John Hay assets instead of operating them, Calde said.

Robert John Sobrepeña, CJHDevco president, placed the firm's investments and potential earnings at P10 billion when he sued BCDA before the Philippine Dispute Resolution Center, an arbitration body.

Calde also said the BCDA has sent out letters to the economic zone's host towns because their investors now owe them real estate taxes covering almost 10 years.

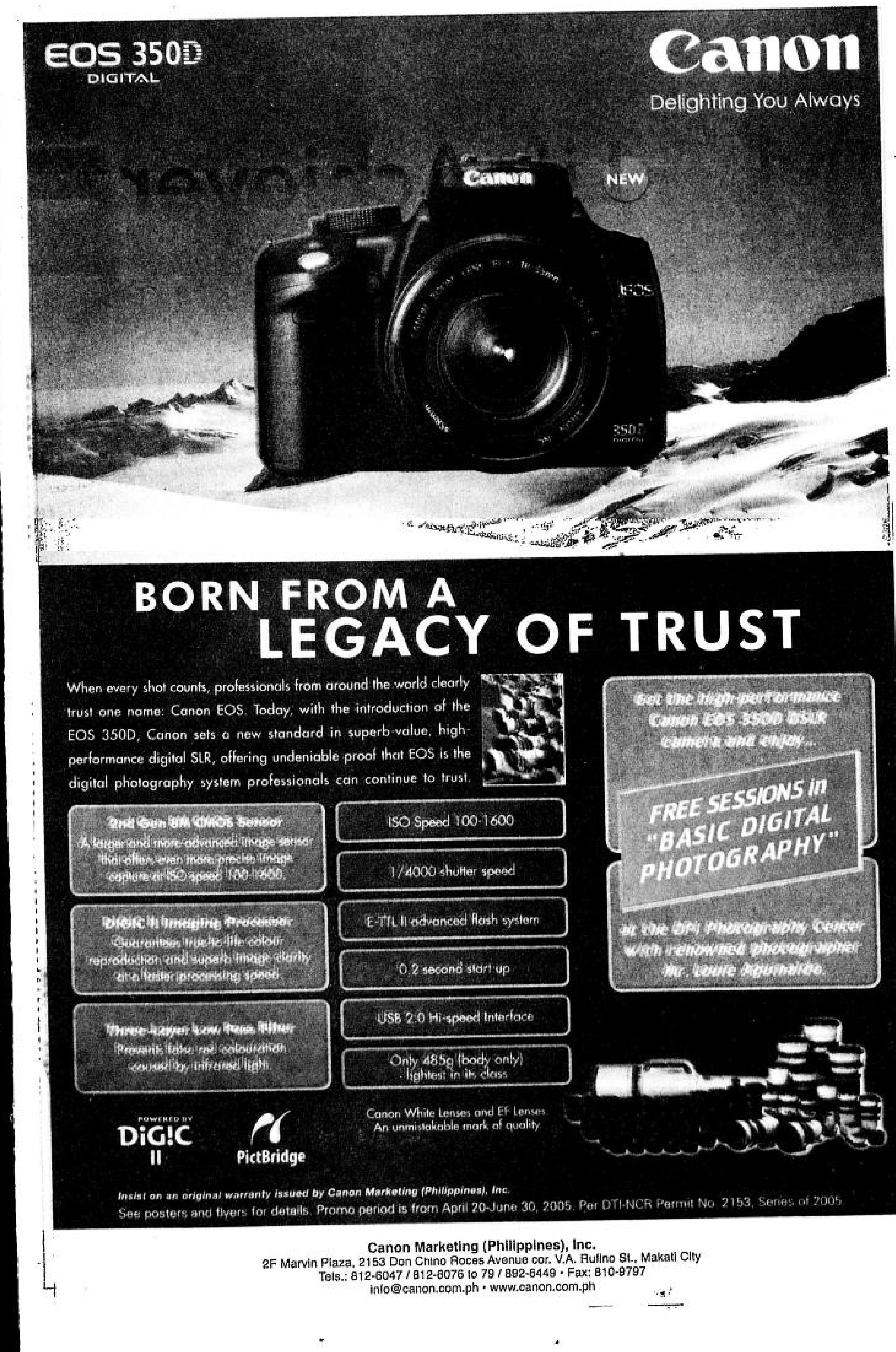
Collection notice

She said the BCDA is asking the local governments to withdraw any collection notices it may have sent to the BCDA firms, until Congress can correct the flaws of RA 7227.

Mayor Braulio Yaranon instructed the city treasury to issue Sobrepeña a demand letter for back taxes on real estate that had reached P100 million as of January this year.

The BIR has classified the CJHDevco as "an ordinary corporation" that has been divested of its tax exemptions as an economic zone locator.

On May 26, Edward Baltazar, a customs district collector, also advised Sobrepeña that the firm now owes government P71.98 million in import duties going back to 1998. *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau, and Jun Malig, PDI Central Luzon Desk*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Exodus of docs starts in Negros

DUMAGUETE CITY—Government doctors in Negros Occidental who went back to school to study nursing have started leaving to work abroad as nurses.

Provincial Health Officer Dr. Ely Villapando said at least six former doctors of the Negros Oriental Provincial Hospital (NOPH) had already left for the United States.

Villapando said it would just be a matter of time before only a handful of doctors will be left at the NOPH because, of the remaining 43 NOPH physicians, only seven have not taken up nursing.

"I don't think there are other reasons why doctors are studying nursing except to work abroad, where the pay is tremendously much better, compared to what they had been receiving from the government," Villapando said.

He said that at the NOPH, for example, there are doctors who are still receiving a little over P15,000 a month, while in the United States, a nurse could receive as much as P200,000 in monthly pay.

Villapando said the low pay is the reason it has been difficult to hire doctors for government hospitals. The NOPH, a 250-bed capacity hospital, has more than 300 patients most of the time, needs at least 75 doctors but only has 43, he added.

At the district hospital in Bais City, there are only six doctors, down by half of what used to be its medical staff, Villapando said. *Romy Amarado, PDI Visayas Bureau*

ROUNDUP

Special holiday in Cebu

MALACAÑANG has declared Monday a special non-working holiday through Proclamation No. 849 to give way to the special elections of the member of the House of Representatives in Cebu's fifth district. This would give the voting public in the district a chance to participate in the political exercise, according to a media release from the education and information department of the Commission on Elections. The Comelec encourages registered voters in the area to vote.

3 killed in blast

ZAMBOANGA CITY—Three persons were killed while seven others were wounded when a grenade exploded in Barangay Recodo here on Thursday evening. Col. Jovencio Magalso, chief of the Task Force Zamboanga, ruled out the role of terrorists in the explosion in Purok Acacia around 8 p.m. Magalso said a family feud could be behind the blast that killed on the spot Jaber Handang Daris. Victims Mahamod Taing and Gilmer Alera later expired at the Brent Hospital. Those injured were identified as 8-year-old Jalil Uttoh, Narlito Matuallam, Ciling Taing, Nonoy Bancaya, Matra Asakil, Jhannang Asakil and Asaha Jamiri.

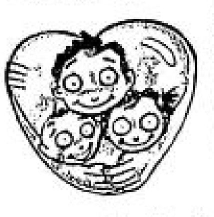
Julie S. Alipala, PDI Mindanao Bureau

New Legazpi bishop

LEGAZPI CITY—Bishop Nestor C. Cariño was installed on Tuesday as the fifth bishop of the Diocese of Legazpi, replacing Bishop Jose C. Sora, who has retired. Papal Nuncio to the Philippines Antonio Franco officiated the canonical installation of the new Legazpi bishop at 3 p.m. at the St. Gregory the Great Cathedral here. Cariño, 67, is a native of Balading, Malinao, Albay. Cariño was ordained priest on Dec. 31, 1961, and began the priestly ministry as an assistant parish priest in the Albay Cathedral Parish in Old Albay District here.

Julie Ann Berdin, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Group eyes help for kids



LUCENA CITY—The city's premier socio-civic organization, the Ugat Lucena, said it would help ease the plight of the city's street children and indigent senior citizens as part of its 24th founding anniversary celebration. Engineer Reynaldo Calayan Jr., co-president of the Ugat Lucena, along with Flor Liza Jara-Obaña, said the association will donate P50,000 to the City Social Welfare and Development Office for the benefit of the city's street children. Calayan, also the chief executive officer of the Calmar Land Development Corp. here, said the same amount will be handed to the caregiver of the city's indigent senior citizens.

Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

Slay suspect nabbed

LEGAZPI CITY—One of the suspects in the killing of Albay broadcaster Rowell Edrinal was arrested by the Criminal Investigation and Detection Group in Barangay Arimbay here in front of a Shell gas station. Edrinal was killed in front of his house while about to go to radio station dzRC for his morning program on Feb. 11 last year. Chief Supt. Ricardo B. Dapat, CIDG chief based in Camp Gen. Simeon Ola, identified the suspect as Calito O. Arizobal alias Boy Zapanta, 38, a resident of Barangay Gaid, Dimasalang, Masbate. Arizobal has also been charged with robbery and homicide and ranks No. 1 most wanted person in Masbate.

Michael B. Jauclan, PDI Southern Luzon Bureau

IN THE WOODS TOOTS SOBERANO/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU
A boy points to the wreckage of a trainer plane that overshot the Loakan Airport and crashed in a thinly populated village in Baguio City.

Former NPA leader in Quezon abducted

LUCENA CITY—A former top New People's Army rebel in Quezon was snatched by unidentified armed men while he was walking on his way to the public market in Mulanay town on Saturday morning, according to the relatives of the victim.

The victim was identified as Ramoncito "Monet" Garcia, 53, a former commander of the NPA guerrillas operating in the province's Bondoc Peninsula area in the 1980s and early 1990s.

According to Jun, the victim's younger brother, Monet was on his way to the market to buy fish, which he would bring to the farm, when he was abducted by a group of men, some of whom were carrying short firearms.

Boxed

Monet was also reportedly boxed in the face by one of his abductors, the brother said.

"Based on a witness' account, Monet was forced by four men to ride a dark blue Tamaraw FX. Then, the vehicle sped away toward outside the town proper and straight to the next town of Catanauan," Jun said in a mobile phone interview.

The victim's brother maintained that Monet was no longer connected with the armed movement.

"He was now living a peaceful life. He was maintaining a vegetable farm and some pigs in a backyard pigpen in our farmland in Barangay Ajos to sustain his family," he said.

Shock

The victim's wife, Liza, who lives with Monet's mother and sister and their six children in Manila, said she was shocked when she learned of the abduction of her husband.

She said a military intelligence team once arrested Monet in Manila two years ago.

She said her husband was confined at Camp Aguinaldo for 24 hours.

"When he was released, he told me that his captors wanted him to formally surrender in exchange for a job. But he refused. He didn't want to antagonize his former comrades who abhor returnees," Liza said in a phone interview.

Prayer

She said she didn't have any idea who could possibly have abducted her husband—whether it was the military, the NPA or any other armed group.

"We want him back alive," she said.

But according to Jun, the four men who abducted his brother had checked in at a local hotel on Friday evening.

"One of them was positively identified by a witness as an Army soldier," he said.

When contacted by the INQUIRER, Lt. Gen. Pedro Cabuay, commander of the military's Southern Luzon Command based here, offered his help in locating the victim.

"From what I know of him, he is facing several warrants of arrest," he said.

Joselito Ojeda, former Mulanay mayor and relative of the victim, urged the authorities to help locate Monet.

"If he's facing criminal charges in court, due process should be observed in his arrest," he said. *Delfin T. Mallari Jr., PDI Southern Luzon Bureau*

Group says tax on power anticonsumer

BAGUIO CITY—The biggest critics of the independent power producers (IPPs) are now taking up their cause against the value-added tax (VAT) on power.

The Association of Philippine Electric Cooperatives (Apec) party-list group is asking President Macapagal-Arroyo to exempt the IPPs from the VAT coverage.

The VAT bill, which was signed into law by the President on Tuesday, removed the tax exemptions of the National Power Corp., which originally absorbed the cost of buying electricity from the IPPs.

A consumer tax like VAT allows the power generators to automatically pass this to their clients, said Luis Manuel Corral, Apec secretary general, during a recent press conference here.

Apec Rep. Edgar Valdez, vice chair of the congressional oversight committee on the Electric Power Industry Reform Act (Epira), said Apec's petition is ironic because it still blames the IPP contracts for the debts of the Napocor.

Private

The IPPs are privately owned electric power generating facilities, which have existing purchase contracts with Napocor.

The contracts' most controversial provision obliges the government to buy IPP power regardless of need or cost.

A VAT on power "clearly destabilizes Malacañang's efforts to deregulate the power industry," Corral said.

Napocor and its power generating assets are being auctioned off as part of power reforms but "the imposition of VAT… will lower the bid price for these assets [and may increase] the stranded cost that the government and taxpayers will have to absorb," an Apec paper said.

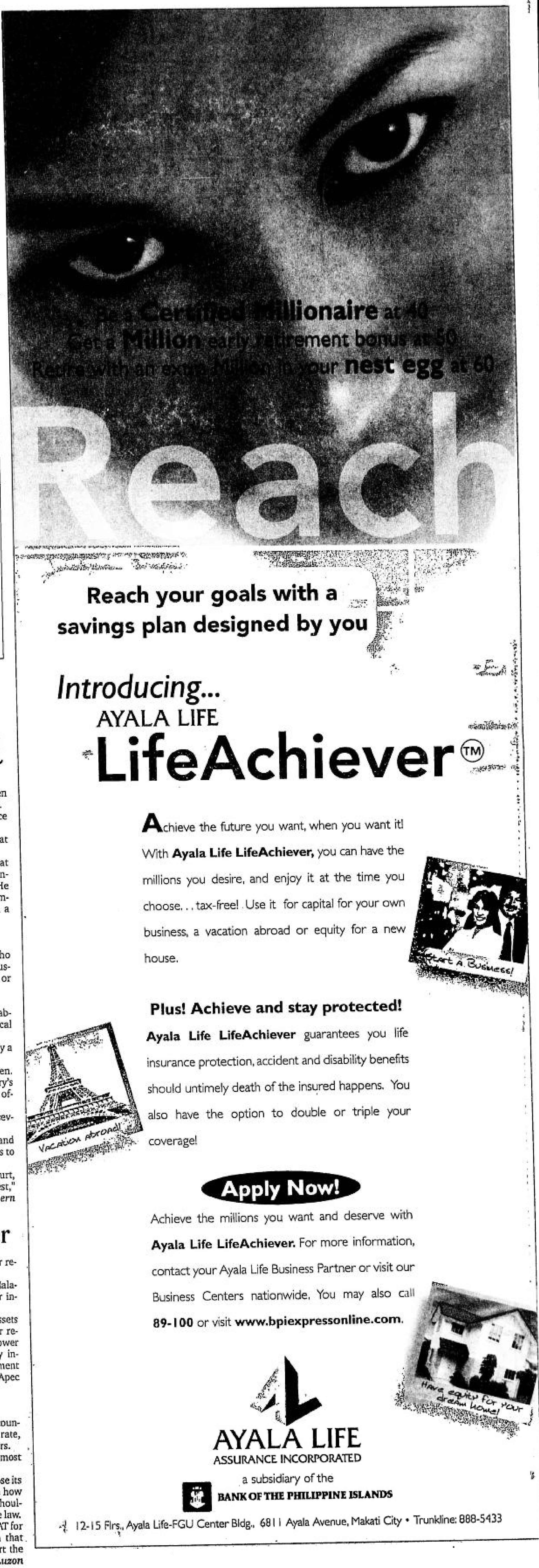
3rd most expensive

Apec said the country "is among the countries in Asia with the highest electricity rate, which serves as a disincentive for investors.

"Philippine power is already the third most expensive in Asia," it said.

Valdez has asked Malacañang to disclose its new agreements with IPPs to determine how much burden consumers will have to shoulder now that a VAT on power has become law.

Corral said Malacañang's silence on VAT for power "helped instigate the deception that made people believe the VAT won't hurt the poor." *Vincent Cabreza, PDI Northern Luzon Bureau*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Editor Jun Bandayrel
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No more 'chartered horses' for upland B'laan villagers

B'LAAN families in the upland village of Libi, Malapatan, Sarangani had to walk several kilometers to transport their products to the main village because of lack of roads.
JEOFFREY MAITEM

By Jeoffrey Maitem
Malapatan, Sarangani

IT WAS a simple venture that changed the lives of B'laan natives in the village of Libi in Sarangani's hinterland municipality of Malapatan.

Farmer Rene Balantog, 45, said that in the past years, it was really hard for them to transport their produce to the main village because of lack of roads.

"We were only using horses as means of transportation," said another farmer, Sabia Kalayog, 40.

"Right now, we are grateful because it's easy and cheaper for us to transport our products because motorcycles ply from here to the poblacion," Kalayog explained.

The two farmers and their neighbors were encouraged to continue planting corn, bananas, peanuts, cotton, vegetables and other crops when a road opening program was initiated under the government's antipoverty program, Kapit-bisig Laban sa Kahirapan and Integrated Delivery of Social Services" (Kalahi-CIDSS).

The World Bank-funded program gave new hope to the people, Balantog said.

> Crop production went up since a road was opened a year ago

More produce

Kalayog said their crop production had increased since a 2.3-km road linking this village to the center was formally opened a year ago.

The farmers used to pay P25 to P35 to transport each bag of farm produce by a "chartered horse." A horse can only accommodate two bags.

Now, they pay the same amount to owners of motorcycles that can carry three to five bags of newly harvested crops.

Clarito Palalisan, a Kalahi-CIDDS volunteer, agreed with Kalayog, saying that the people had already availed themselves of the government's social services.

"Deadly illnesses among children have been prevented because they were immunized by health workers who earlier found it difficult to reach the area because of the road problem," Palalisan noted.

Also, it is now easier for young children to go to the Libi Elementary School, he added.

"People living in urban areas may consider the venture simple, but for people like us, it has a big impact. Through the road opening, other foreign-funded nongovernment organizations and government agencies were able to bring basic social services," Palalisan said.

"And we are thankful for that."

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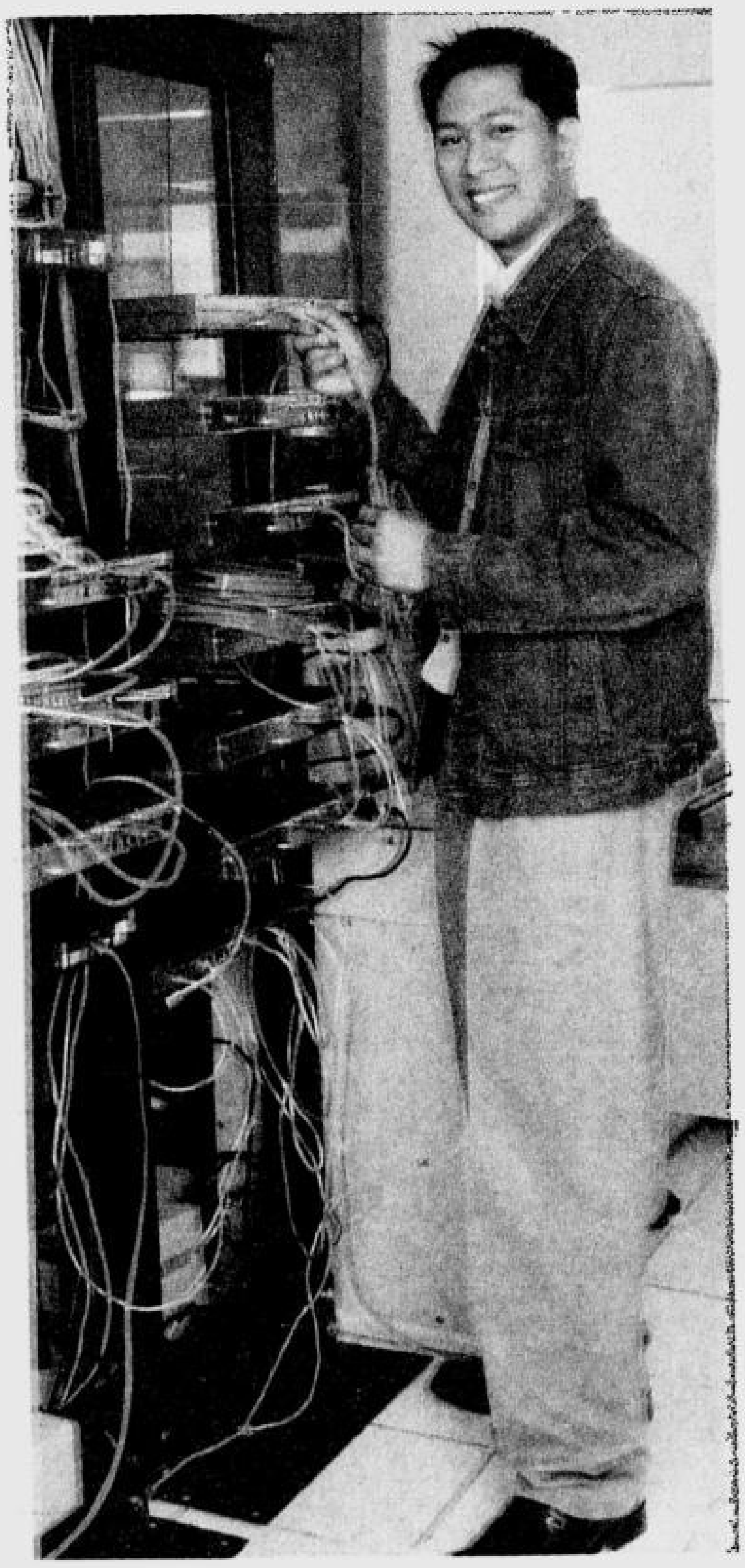

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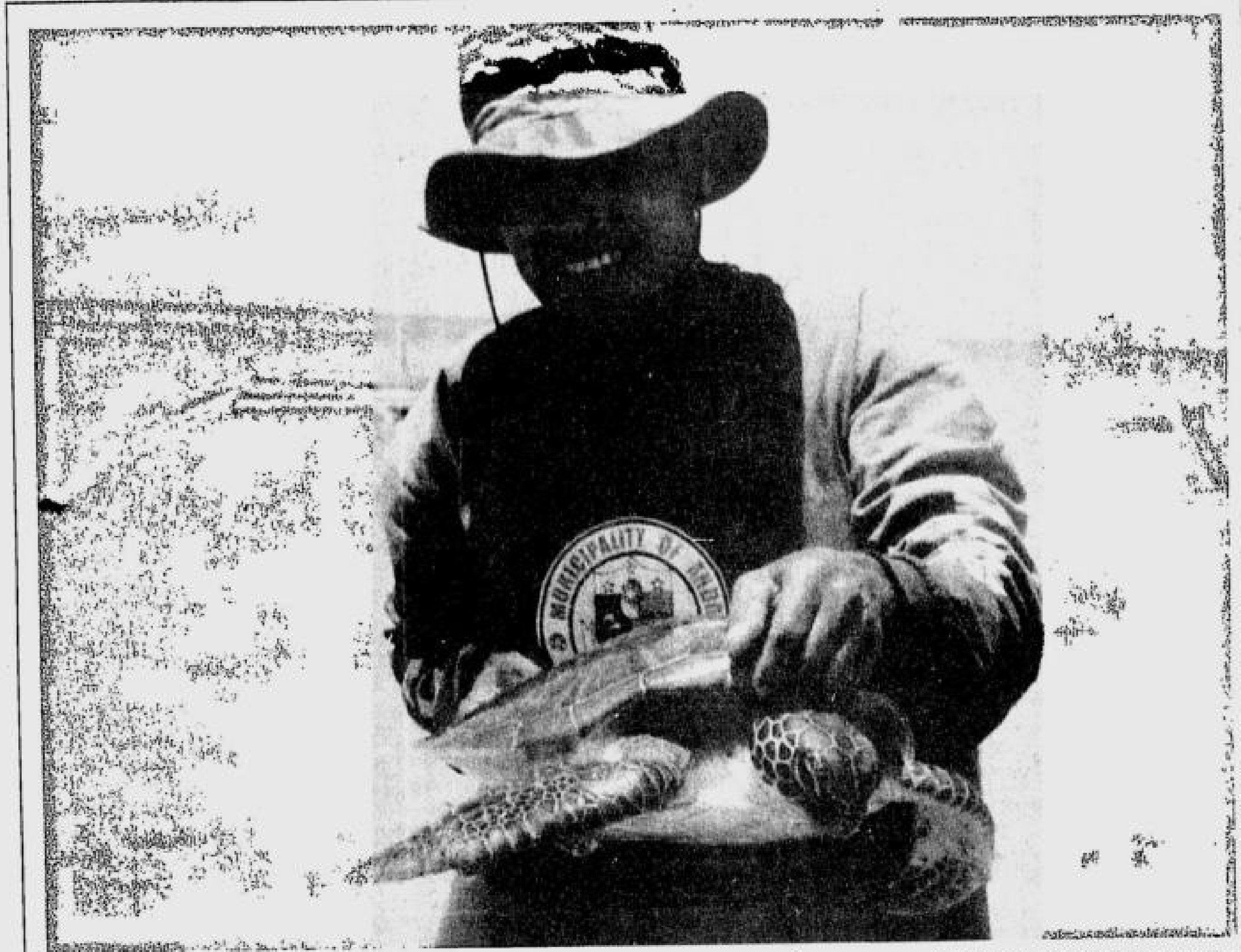


YOLANDA FUERTES/PDI NORTHERN LUZON BUREAU

SEA CREATURE
A fisherman in Anda, Pangasinan shows off a red-shelled sea turtle.

GMA wants Romblon, Palawan in W. Visayas, says exec

By Carla P. Gomez
PDI Visayas Bureau

BACOLOD CITY—President Macapagal-Arroyo has expressed her desire to transfer the regional grouping of the provinces of Romblon and Palawan from Southern Luzon to Western Visayas.

Rafael Coscolluela, Western Visayas presidential adviser, said on Friday that there would be "administrative headaches" involved in implementing the new regional grouping but that they would have to work out the mechanics and find out if it would be workable.

Coscolluela said President Arroyo would also want the provinces of Marinduque and Mindoro be returned to the regional grouping of Southern Tagalog.

New grouping

Mindoro, Marinduque, Romblon and Palawan (Mimaropa) used to be all under the jurisdiction of Region 4 but were later made part of Region 4B, Coscolluela said.

Coscolluela said the proposed regional grouping is part of the rationalization and streamlining program of the government where, instead of creating another region, the President wants to reduce the number of regions, and give some of the provinces to the regions closest to them.

However, he said some agencies have expressed reservations about the doability of that scheme.

More offices

In the case of the Department of Environment and Natural Resources, it means adding seven additional Community Environment and Natural Resources Offices (Cenro) for Western Visayas, he said.

"It is also not easy to go to Romblon and Palawan from Iloilo, which is the regional center," he said.

Coscolluela, Bacolod Rep. Monico Puentevella and Rep. Ignacio Arroyo (Negros Occidental, 5th district) held a consultation Friday with the Western Visayas regional directors at the Executive Inn in Bacolod City to listen to their various concerns.

Studies

Vicente Paragas, regional environment director, said the inclusion of Romblon and Palawan in the Western Visayas region was still being studied.

"We were asked to provide our inputs on that proposal. We were told to submit our proposals and state if we felt it was feasible or not," he said.

This early, however, Paragas appeared not keen on the proposal, pointing out that Palawan "is very far" from Western Visayas.

Gov signs deal with hospitals to admit poor

DOMINGUEZ

ALABEL, Sarangani—As in other parts of the country, indigent patients in this province suffer from lack of proper medical attention as most government-run hospitals and clinics have no adequate equipment.

But the poor here could now heave a sigh of relief.

They could now experience the service and comfort of private hospitals in General Santos City, which are normally only for those who have the money to spend.

Recently, Gov. Miguel Dominguez signed a memorandum of agreement with at least five private hospitals in General Santos City "to ensure that indigent patients get the proper, if not the best medical services that they deserve."

"We are trying to reinvent the government, maximizing each and every peso spent," Dominguez said.

He said that the agreement with the General Santos Doctors' Hospital, Diagan Memorial Cooperative Hospital, St. Elizabeth Hospital, Socsargen County Hospital and the Mindanao Medical Center could be the first for any local government unit in the country.

Different

"We would like to try something different, ensuring that the services we are mandated to [give] is delivered to the people with utmost quality and efficiency," he said.

Dominguez said that under the agreement, indigent patients seeking admission in either of the five hospitals would only have to submit a certificate from their respective Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) with a medical referral slip from the municipal health officer or attending physician, community tax certificate and certification of residency from the barangay captain.

"The signing of the agreement by five private tertiary hospitals with the provincial government only shows trust and confidence in the present administration under Governor Dominguez," Ramon Villa, administrative officer of the Provincial Health Office, said.

Antonio Yasaña, provincial health officer, said the provincial government will shoulder the bills incurred by indigent patients from the province.

"The governor wants the best medical services we can give to our indigent patients. There should be no difference between well-off and indigent patients in hospitalization," Yasaña said.

The INQUIRER learned that the provincial government's annual budget for health services is only P3 million.

It also subsidizes the operation of government-run hospitals in the towns of Maitum, Kiamba, Maasim, Malungon and Glan.

Dominguez said because of the meager fund, the provincial government was trying to establish tie-ups with the private sector and nongovernment organizations to continue its goal of providing quality services. *Aquiles Z. Zonio, PDI Mindanao Bureau*

Postpone ARMM poll move not working

COTABATO CITY—The move to postpone the Aug. 8 elections in the Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao has been losing steam, Rep. Simeon Datumanong of Maguindanao said.

Datumanong said quite a number of congressmen think that postponing the elections might be misconstrued that the government "has lost respect and showed its lack of support for the autonomous region."

He said because of this, the proposal by Rep. Hussin Amin of Sulu has not been discussed even in the committee level.

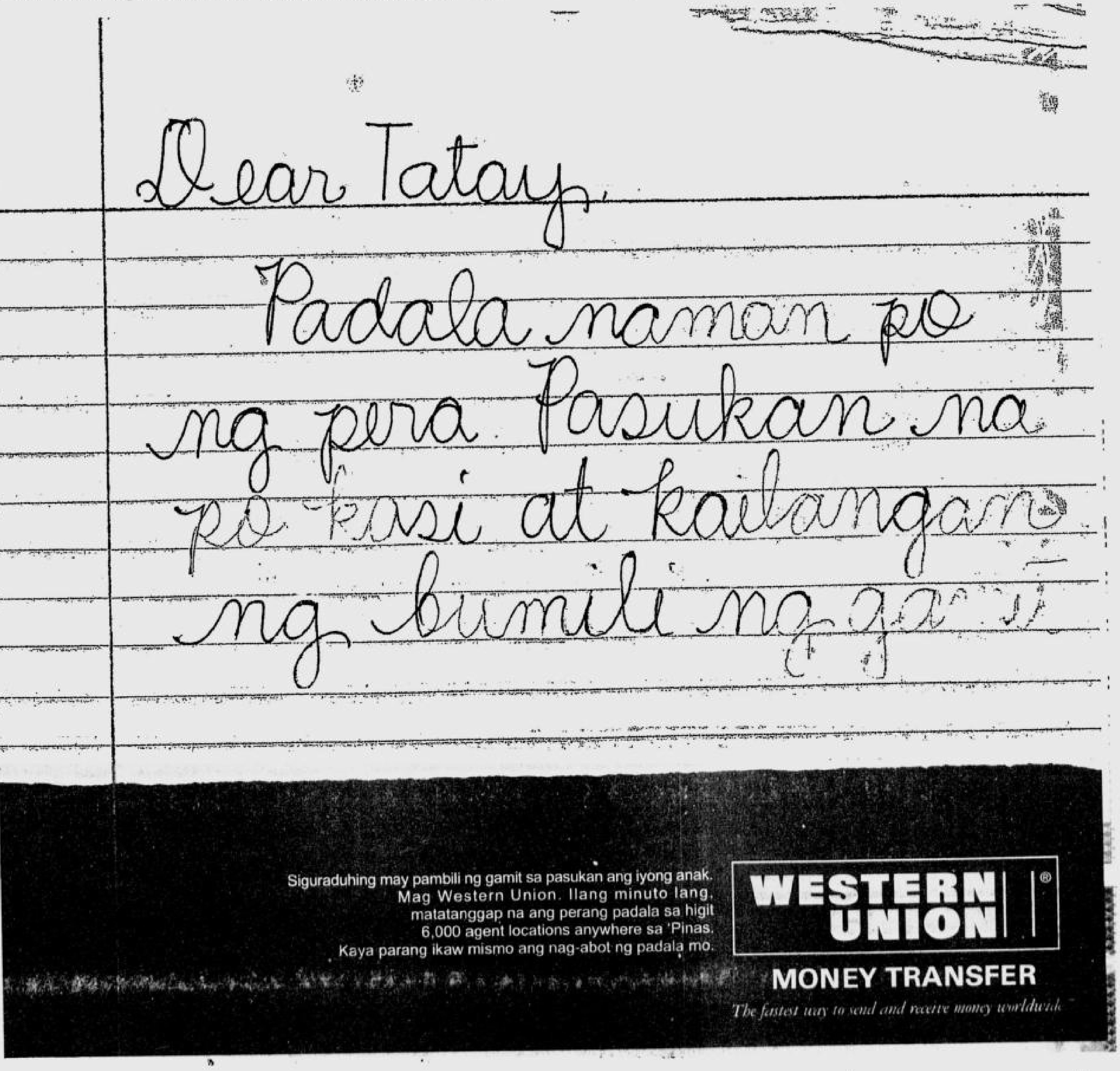
"And time is running out," Datumanong, one the main authors of the bill that created the ARMM, said.

Datumanong said even the Senate was "not really willing to postpone the elections by legislating another law amending the existing one that authorizes the holding of the ARMM elections."

Datumanong said because of this, he was confident that the regional elections would push through as scheduled.

He said that the P200 million needed for the elections is also available contrary to some reports.

Datumanong said the President could not do anything to delay the elections. *Charlie C. Señase, PDI Mindanao Bureau*



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Japanese loses $20,000 at airport security check

By Nikko Dizon

THE LAST time Japanese journalist Akira Maki saw his black bag containing $20,000 (P1.08 million), it was about to go into a security X-ray machine of the Manila Domestic Airport in Pasay City.

The bag has since disappeared.

Maki, 45, a correspondent of the Tokyo Broadcasting System (TBS), was supposed to fly yesterday morning by Air Philippines to General Santos City via Cagayan de Oro City to do a story on two reported World War II Japanese stragglers.

Manila International Airport Authority (Miaa) general manager Alfonso Cusi immediately ordered an investigation.

"We have to get to the bottom of this," Cusi told the INQUIRER over the phone.

Security men face quiz

At least eight non-uniformed personnel of the Philippine National Police-Police Center for Aviation Security and security guards stationed at the X-ray machine would be questioned, according to retired Brig. Gen. Angel Atutubo and Octavio Lina, Miaa assistant general managers.

Lina was the senior duty officer at the domestic airport yesterday.

Atutubo, Miaa chief for security and emergency services, said he had ordered the pullout of all security men on duty at the airport at the time of the incident.

Maki and his Filipino companions Enrico Enpaynado and Dave Lagman arrived at the domestic airport at 6 a.m. for the 8 a.m. flight.

Lina said the closed circuit television camera (CCTV) showed Maki putting his black shoulder bag on the X-ray feeder at the first security check at 6:23 a.m.

The journalist walked through the X-ray for passengers and was frisked for about 40 seconds.

"The CCTV showed him (Maki) waiting for his bag to come out, but it never did," Lina said.

In his report, Maki said that as he waited for his bag, he was distracted by coins dropping to the floor.

"I was keeping a tight watch on my bag as it went through the X-ray machine. Even while I was being frisked, my eyes were glued to my bag. Then I heard the clatter of coins...," Maki said as quoted in the Miaa press release yesterday.

Distracted

Maki said, "The sound distracted me, causing me to take my eyes off my bag. When I looked at the surveillance monitor, my bag was no longer there. My bag vanished. It only took 40 seconds for my bag to disappear."

Lina said the CCTV showed Maki shifting his attention from the X-ray machine to the floor.

The official said the coins could have been a signal to someone that the bag contained money or that it served as a distraction.

He said the surveillance camera was too far to see exactly what happened to the bag.

Atutubo said the Miaa would do its best to recover Maki's cash. As of yesterday noon, however, a search of the airport proved futile.

Atutubo said he asked the National Bureau of Investigation (NBI) at the Miaa to administer a polygraph test on personnel present during the incident.

Taken by mistake?

Supt. Pablo Francisco Balagtas, chief of the 2nd PCAS, the PNP unit with jurisdiction over the domestic airport, told the INQUIRER that another passenger could have taken the bag by mistake.

"There were many passengers at that time, most of them in a hurry to catch their flights. Somebody else might have taken the bag by mistake," Balagtas said.

The 2nd PCAS is also investigating the incident.

The Miaa officials said Maki decided to cancel his trip. The journalist proceeded instead to the Japanese Embassy on Roxas Boulevard to report the incident.

Japanese Embassy spokesman Shuhei Ogawa told the INQUIRER that the embassy would likely urge authorities to do everything to recover Maki's missing cash.

Ogawa was in General Santos with other Japanese officials yesterday to check reports that two former Japanese soldiers, now in their 80s, had been living in the province since the end of World War II nearly six decades ago.

Singer-composer takes his final bow

By Bayani San Diego Jr.

TANN

SINGER-COMPOSER-LYRICIST Richard Tann took his final bow yesterday—succumbing to a heart attack at 8 a.m. He was 51.

A former member of the '70s group Circus Band, Tann (or Richard Tan Tihua in real life) made a name for himself as the voice behind the popular "Hallmark Card" jingle in the mid-'70s. With Bambi Bonus, he also interpreted Gerry Paraiso's Metro Pop entry "Kailangan Ko, Kailangan Mo" in the early '80s.

Unlike his fellow Circus Band alumni Basil Valdez, Jacqui Magno, Pat Castillo and Hajji Alejandro who have all carved successful solo singing careers, Tann chose to work behind-the-scenes, producing fashion shows and plays.

He also managed Basil Valdez (whom he later co-managed with Wyngard Tracy) at the height of the balladeer's career as the hitmaker behind "Ngayon at Kailanman" and "Kastilyong Buhangin."

A year and a half ago, Tann established the Nicotina Garden Pavilion, a theater-bar along Roxas Boulevard—which started showcasing in November last year 10-minute plays featuring some of the country's top movie and stage actors .

According to talent manager Bibsy Carballo, who worked closely with him in Nicotina, Tann had been pushing himself, burning both sides of the candle of late.

"He had been sick for the past few weeks," Carballo recalled. "And he had a history of heart ailment. I've been pestering him to take a vacation. But he didn't want to because no one would take care of the bar."

"He wasn't feeling well the night before," talent manager Tracy related. "Then early in the morning, he had an attack. He was first taken to the Manila Doctors Hospital where he was revived."

According to Tracy, Tann was transferred to Cardinal Santos Medical Center, upon the advice of the doctors in Manila.

"Most of his relatives, including his two sisters and mother, are now based in Canada," Tracy said. "But two of his sisters are in Manila and they were with him at the time he had the attack. In Manila Doctors, the family was informed that Cardinal Santos had better facilities for an open-heart surgery."

He was then rushed to CSMC where he eventually expired after another attack.

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THE DAILY GOSPEL

Sunday, May 29, 2005
Body and Blood of Christ

1st Reading: Deuteronomy 8:2-3,14-16

A food for a people in need

Moses said to the people, "Remember how Yahweh, your God, brought you through the desert for forty years. He humbled you, to test you and know what was in your heart, whether you would keep his commandments or not. He made you experience want, he made you experience hunger, but he gave you manna to eat which neither you nor your fathers had known, to show you that man lives not on bread alone, but that all that proceeds from the mouth of God is life for man.

"Then do not let your heart become proud and do not forget Yahweh, your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, the house of slavery. It is he who has led you across this great and terrible desert, full of fiery serpents and scorpions, an arid land where there is no water. But for you he made water gush forth from the hardest rock. And he fed you in the desert with manna which your fathers did not know."

2nd Reading: 1st Corinthians 10:16-17

One bread, one body

Brothers and sisters, the cup of blessing that we bless, is it not a communion with the blood of Christ? And the bread that we break, is it not a communion with the body of Christ? The bread is one, and so we, though many, form one body, sharing the one bread.

Gospel: John 6:51-58

Real food and real drink of life

Jesus said to the crowds, "I am the living bread which has come from heaven; whoever eats of this bread will live forever. The bread I shall give is my flesh and I will give it for the life of the world."

The Jews were arguing among themselves, "How can this man give us flesh to eat?" So Jesus replied, "Truly, I say to you, if you do not eat the flesh of the Son of Man and drink his blood, you have no life in you. The one who eats my flesh and drinks my blood live with eternal life and I will raise him up on the last day.

"My flesh is really food and my blood is drink. Those who eat my flesh and drink my blood, live in me and I in them. Just as the Father, who is life, sent me and I have life from the Father, so whoever eats me will have life from me. This is the bread which came from heaven; unlike that of your ancestors, who ate and later died. Those who eat this bread will live forever."

Commentary

This is the mystery of the Body and Blood of Christ, of Eucharist in liturgy—the work of the people. But it is also the mystery of Jesus' teaching, of the Word made flesh that dwells among us in the Scriptures. We feast on the word, chew on it and swallow it, internalizing it so that it becomes part of us. We stand on our words in the creed, and offer our bodies and lives to God with the bread and wine. And God transforms the bread and wine into the presence of the Risen Lord, the Body and Blood of Christ and transforms us into the Body and Blood of Christ, the Church in the world, as food and justice, hope and peace for all. We eat what we have proclaimed and become what we eat, becoming God's presence in the world for it is life and salvation. We eat the Bread and the Word and we will live forever, even here, we will taste everlasting life in God, our Father, Jesus the Risen Lord, and the Spirit who binds us together.

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SUPREME COURT DOCTRINES

CRIMINAL LAW (BOOK TWO: SWINDLING AND OTHER DECEITS)—Estafa—The elements of Estafa are as follows: (1) The offender has postdated or issued a check in payment of an obligation contracted at the time of the postdating or issuance; (2) at the time of postdating or issuance of said check, the offender has no funds in the bank or the funds deposited were not sufficient to cover the amount of the check; (3) the payee has been defrauded. Damage and deceit are essential elements of the offense and must be established with satisfactory proof to warrant conviction, while the false pretense or fraudulent act must be committed prior to, or simultaneous with, the issuance of the bad check. The drawer of the dishonored check is given three days from receipt of the notice of dishonor to cover the amount of the check, otherwise, a prima facie presumption of deceit arises. (Citations omitted.) (Justice Azcuna, First Division, People vs Juliano, G. R. No. 134120, January 17, 2005)

BY R. B. VERA

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Youth offenders get swift justice

By Angelina G. Goloy
Contributor

THE WHEELS of justice picked up speed for juvenile delinquents whose cases were decided in a court that, literally, has wheels.

Just before Christmas last year, the Supreme Court put on the road a mobile court to help address the age-old problems of slow-moving cases and congested detention centers, caused by lack of judges and courthouses.

Dubbed "Justice on Wheels," the project has been on a test run in Metro Manila, initially moving the cases of youth offenders, mostly involved in dangerous drugs cases (possession and acting as dealers' couriers), theft (especially cellphone snatching), illegal possession of firearms and serious physical injuries.

300 freed since December

Since December, the mobile court has effected the release of about 300 youth offenders, reported Justice Zenaida Elepaño, Deputy Court Administrator. That's four times more than the number of cases resolved over the same period under the courts' usual pace, she said.

Elepaño was interviewed recently aboard the bus as it headed for the National Training School for Boys (NTSB) in Tanay, Rizal, where detained youth offenders awaited hearing on their cases.

Chief Justice Hilario Davide Jr. got the idea from Guatemala, where he observed judicial reforms during a World Bank-sponsored visit in 2003.

He adopted it as a vehicle for improving case adjudication and accessibility of the justice system, among other wide-ranging reforms.

The mobile court is an air-conditioned bus fitted with a judge's office, a mediation room, even a small toilet. The bus, painted white with a lavender band, is parked outside city halls or jails for two days to a week, depending on the number of cases scheduled for hearing.

The mobile court carries no extraordinary authority to expedite cases, the speedy disposition is made possible simply by the judicious use of the novel facility.

"We asked [family court] judges to set aside specific days for hearing juveniles' cases," said Elepaño, who is in charge of implementation as project committee vice chair to Associate Justice Adolfo Azcuna.

Four Fridays of May

In compliance, Antipolo RTC Judge Ruth Santos dedicated the four Fridays of May to mobile court hearings at the NTSB.

"Cases were resolved quickly because we used plea bargaining techniques, or alternative dispute resolution," said Caloocan RTC Judge Victoria A. Paredes, who disposed of 13 cases in two days. Plea bargaining, which saves litigants the time and money otherwise spent on a trial, is common in family court cases.

Family courts (those handling cases of domestic relations like legal separation or child custody) have the biggest load-80 to 90 out of every 100 cases, mostly involving juveniles in conflict with the law, Elepaño noted.

Sheer volume overwhelms judges. Moreover, major cases take away time and attention from minor ones like those of juveniles. Thus accused minors sometimes stay in detention longer than the rehabilitation period prescribed as penalty for their offense.

"According to DSWD data, at any given time there would be some 50,000 youth offenders detained at the 12 rehabilitation centers nationwide," she said. The NTSB, for example, currently houses 290 youth offenders in cottages built to accommodate only 150, according to Zenaida Gorospe, OIC.

The situation is far worse in city jails, Elepaño lamented. In Quezon City, for instance, inmates take turns every hour or so "sleeping"-sitting on the floor, with their legs folded, while the others stay on their feet.

During the justices consultations on judicial reform, she said, "we decided that decongestion would be our immediate objective." And the way to achieve this was to give priority to less serious cases, such as those of juveniles, and minor crimes by adults, which are the main cause of jail congestion.

Last week the mobile court started taking on cases of adults in city jails.

The mobile court lends itself well to mediation. In the cool, comfortable set-up, the mood is informal, relaxed, and thus litigants are more conciliatory. In contrast, the stiff atmosphere in a regular courtroom can be intimidating, especially to youngsters, and is not conducive to out-of-court settlement.

"The mediation room is crucial. It allows more personal nexus," Elepaño said, adding, "that's why we put a round table, to suggest flexibility."

The round table is one of the modifications in the Philippine model of the mobile court, the other being the protective grids on the glass windows. Otherwise, the bus follows closely the specs of the Guatemalan model.

P7-M bus

Costing P7 million, including fixtures, the bus was built (by winning bidder Fil-Hino) using a US$22.4-million loan from the World Bank for the Supreme Court's judicial reform program.

Outside the bus the court staff sets up a TV monitor and plays a video about the courts and the judicial process.

"The purpose of the mobile court is to bring the courts closer to the people," said QC Judge Teodoro A. Bay, who heard cases that were mostly ready for disposition, such as those wherein the complainants had lost interest.

He and Paredes both said suggested that the mobile court would be even more useful in far-flung provinces where there are fewer judges, courts, even roads and means of transportation.

QC has seven family courts, but in some areas, there is only one judge covering the entire municipality, Bay said.

Municipal trial court judges typically schedule cases two months at a time because they have to cover as much ground as possible, said Paredes, who is presidential adviser and director for Caloocan, Malabon, Navotas of the Philippine Judges Association.

She revealed that the 800-strong association is exploring a possible tie-up with the mobile court project to assist RTC judges as an outreach program. "But first we need to seek authorization from the Supreme Court and coordinate with the Office of the Clerk of Court," she said.

At present member-judges have been going to the provinces in the summer to help in the decision-writing of judges with a huge backlog.

The mobile court, meanwhile, will be sent to northern Luzon, possibly the Cordillera Autonomous Region, after it completes the rounds of Metro Manila jails. "We have begun discussions with tribal councils there on how to incorporate court procedures with their traditional systems," Elepaño said.

At the same time, she added, two more court-buses are being built, for the Visayas and Mindanao-an indication that the project has been successful.

In fact, Elepaño intimated, the Guatemalan Chief Justice himself, on a visit a few months ago, remarked, "the process is even better here."

JUSTICE
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ON WHEELS

JUSTICE Zenaida Elepaño (above) stands beside the Justice on Wheels bus, which has been making the rounds of Metro Manila to speed up the hearing of cases against youth offenders. At left is Judge Victoria Paredes of Caloocan who has been helping expedite cases under the program.

ERIC ARAZAS/MITCH MAURICIO

Tsunami fatality, a victim twice over

By DJ Yap

SHE LEFT the Philippines to work as a dancer in Thailand. But instead of a better life, what awaited her were broken promises and a tragedy.

The sister of a dancer who perished in the tsunami disaster in Thailand in December has filed charges before the Quezon City Prosecutors Office of syndicated illegal recruitment against the three persons who sent her sister to that country.

Kristine May Lomadilla charged Charles Brown, Amelita Bandoy and Pia Zapanta, all of the Charles Brown Excellence Entertainment, for allegedly victimizing her sister, Kathryn Joy, who drowned when the tsunami struck on Dec. 26.

Persuaded

In her affidavit, Lomadilla said her sister was persuaded by Zapanta to work as a folk dancer, choreographer and dance trainor in Thailand for US$500-1,000 a month, plus benefits.

With two other recruits, Kathryn Joy left for Thailand on Aug. 21, 2004, said Lomadilla. She stayed at Brown's apartment in Phuket. But after a month, Kathryn Joy told her sister she was not being paid the promised amount.

Kathryn Joy also told Lomadilla that when she brought it up with Brown, he refused to pay her, and gave her money enough for her basic needs only.

Kathryn Joy added she was not being fed enough.

Lomadilla said her sister also complained that her airfare was deducted from her salary, contrary to her agreement with the recruiter.

Misled

On Dec. 26, 2004, when a tsunami struck Thailand and other countries killing thousands, Kathryn Joy's family anxiously called up Zapanta and were assured that she was all right. Zapanta quoted Bandoy who, the family learned, was a vice president in the company.

Lomadilla said the family learned only of Kathryn Joy's tragic fate when she went to Bangkok to identify her sister's body.

The INQUIRER checked the POEA website and found no Charles Brown Excellence Entertainment or CBE Entertainment in the list of licensed recruitment agencies. The company is also not registered with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

DEFENSE SHOW

VICE President Noli de Castro speaks at the opening on Thursday of the 9th International Aviation, Maritime & Defense Exhibition at the Philippine Trade Training Center along Roxas Blvd. in Pasay City. Looking on are Transportation and Communication Secretary Leandro Mendoza. The show, which runs until today and is participated in by 12 nations, features the latest advancements in technology among air, land and sea products for industrial, commercial, leisure and defense applications.

Police fail to test ex-general for powder burns

CENTRAL Police District investigators failed to subject a retired general to a paraffin test to show if he fired a gun during an incident in Quezon City where a construction worker was wounded.

Police made a mistake, said lawyer Jose Miguel Palarca, counsel for retired-Brig. Gen. Virgilio David.

David is being accused by neighbors in Rosalia II Subdivision in Barangay Tandang Sora of opening fire at them early Friday morning.

A worker at their neighbor's construction firm was reportedly hit in the neck and right thigh during the alleged gunplay.

'Investigation over'

"The investigation is over. Now they're on a fishing expedition to substantiate their allegations (against David)," Palarca said.

Results of a paraffin test could be used in the frustrated homicide case filed against David, who has been charged before the Quezon City Prosecutors Office.

An inquest prosecutor has recommended a P24,000 bail for the former general's provisional release.

But Palarca said the case should not have been submitted for inquest because the investigators were not present when the alleged shooting took place.

The alleged shooting happened after David and his brother Romeo reportedly engaged their neighbors in an exchange of invectives over parking.

David was a military adviser on the coconut industry during the Marcos administration and a former administrator of the Philippine Coconut Authority.

Police said he submitted himself for investigation while Romeo remained at large.

But Palarca said Romeo was not in hiding because there was no warrant for his arrest.

The lawyer also questioned police statements that David surrendered voluntarily.

Harassment alleged

Palarca said the former general only went to the police to complain about alleged "harassment" on him and his brother by some 30 workers of ZMR Construction, a firm owned by their neighbors.

The lawyer questioned the endorsement of the case for inquest, saying it did not satisfy the conditions for an arrest without a warrant.

He said he was contemplating filing charges against the police and the inquest prosecutor for the alleged irregularity.

CPD investigation unit deputy chief Jose Garcia said Palarca could file charges, but maintained that the case was rightly submitted for inquest.

The fact that the prosecutor recommended bail for David showed that there was probable cause for the case, he said.

Palarca said that more than the parking dispute, the case stemmed from David's actions to stop ZMR Construction operations in Rosalia II because it was a residential area.

He added that the mayor had stopped some of the company's operations based on David's contentions.

He reiterated David's statement casting doubt on the alleged shooting, adding that the victim could have hurt himself by falling in a ditch with sharp protrusions.

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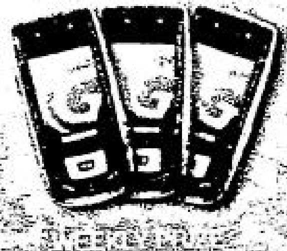

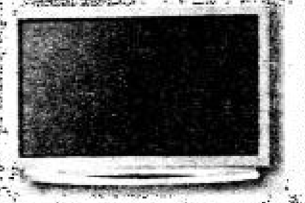

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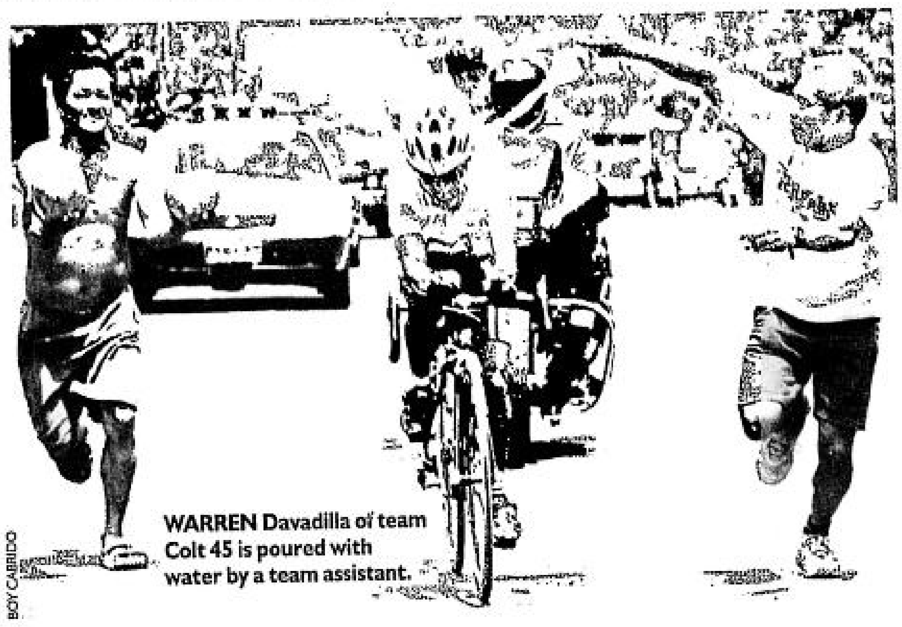

BOY CABRIDO

WARREN Davadilla of team Colt 45 is poured with water by a team assistant.

Davadilla tops ITT 3rd stage

By Marc Anthony Reyes

TAGAYTAY CITY—Warren Davadilla proved a master of unpaced riding by topping the individual time trial serving as third stage of the Golden Tour 50@50 yesterday to pull away from the feared Rhyan Tanguilig.

With his second straight lap win, Davadilla, the 1998 Tour champion, took a lead of two minutes 25 seconds over last year's bikathon champion Tanguilig, who finished behind Warren for the second straight day.

Davadilla, the Colt 45 captain, opted to take the jeepney ride to Tuy, Batangas, where the 35.5-km individual time trial started and the extra rest proved in handy as he won with a time of one hour two minutes and 51 seconds.

The 5-foot-2 father of three from Valenzuela City came home 29 seconds faster than Tanguilig of PLDT to underscore his familiarity of the route that will be used for the Southeast Asian Games this November.

"At first I thought Rhyan would gain on me because I'm not used to the ITT," said Davadilla, who will represent the country in the SEA Games road race and criterium events.

Going into today's fourth stage from Malolos, Bulacan, to Olongapo City, Davadilla enjoys a lead of three and a half minutes over third overall Alvin Benosa of Touch Mobile.

But as usual, the 30-year-old Davadilla downplayed his chances and even predicted a

DAVADILLA/ A26

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RP tests India in FedEx-backed tilt

GAMES TODAY (*Araneta Coliseum*)
1 p.m.—Kuwait vs Syria
3:15 p.m.—Qatar vs Jordan
5:30 p.m.—Opening ceremony
6 p.m.—RP vs India
8:15 p.m.—Kazakhstan vs Iran

FEDEX Express, as usual, delivered.

Despite short notice, the giant brokerage firm has agreed to be the title sponsor of the 16th Fiba-Asia Champion's Cup, which comes off the wraps today at the Araneta Coliseum.

To be known as FedEx-Fiba-Asia Champion's Cup, the week-long championship will be formally declared open by Fiba-Asia president Sheik Saud Bin Ali Al-Thani of Qatar during a colorful opening ceremony at 5:30 p.m.

"This is part of our commitment to help the development of local basketball," said FedEx president Lito Alvarez. "National pride is at stake in the Fiba-Asia Champion's Cup and FedEx is very pleased to be a part of it."

Basketball Association of the Philippines (BAP) executive vice-president Christian Tan will deliver the welcome remarks, while Fiba Asia secretary-general Dato Yeoh Choo Hock will give an inspirational message.

Fr. Robert Reyes will lead the invocation, while RP team captain Dondon Hontiveros will lead the oath of sportsmanship.

Invited to grace the opening ceremony are Philippine Olympic Committee (POC) president Peping Cojuangco, POC chairman Robert Aventajado, PBA commissioner Noli Eala, PBA chair Buddy Encarnado and heads of various collegiate leagues, such as the UAAP, NCAA and the Naascu.

To be bannered by select PBA players and mentored by Chot Reyes, the Philippines opens its campaign against unpredictable India starting at 6:15 p.m.

The Philippines will be bannered by Willie Miller, Jimmy Alapag and Yancy de Ocampo of Talk 'N Text, Mark Caguioa and Romel Adducul of Ginebra San Miguel, Enrico Villanueva of Red Bull, Hontiveros and Nic Belasco of San Miguel Beer, Rafi Reavis of Coca-Cola, Sonny Thoss of Alaska Milk, Tony de la Cruz of Shell and Renren Ritualo of FedEx.

Other opening-day matches pit Kuwait against Syria at 1 p.m., Qatar against Jordan at 3:15 p.m. and Kazakhstan against Iran at 8:15 p.m.

Tournament format is single-round elimination with the top two teams in each group advancing to the crossover semifinals.

Granny Goose bombs Harbour Centre five

By Jasmine W. Payo

JR QUIÑAHAN'S numbers told the story as Granny Goose upset Harbour Centre, 75-60, to claim the last semifinal berth in the PBL Unity Cup yesterday at the Blue Eagle Gym in Ateneo.

Quiñahan, the hefty 6-foot-6 center from Cebu, delivered 21 points, 11 rebounds, two steals and five blocks to lead the Komets to their second straight semifinal appearance.

"The team showed intensity," said coach Jun Tan after Granny Goose arranged a semifinal match against Montaña Pawnshop. "The character of this team came late, but we showed it was there."

Defending champion Magnolia Ice Cream will battle Welcoat Paints in the other Final Four pairing.

It was a disappointing finish for the Portmasters who blew a twice-to-beat in their playoff against the Komets.

Harbour Centre even had an opportunity to gain outright entry in the semifinals, but lost to Welcoat also in a playoff.

The Komets showed aggressiveness in stopping scoring leader Mac Cardona, who finished with 16 points, well below his 22.9 average.

"We were able to stop Cardona," noted Tan. "We doubled on him. We just left others to shoot as long as it's not Cardona or (LA) Tenorio."

The Final Four cast will compete in a new semifinal format.

Top seeds Montaña and Welcoat will need only two wins in the best-of-five series to advance, while Magnolia and Granny Goose have to post three victories to reach the finals.

The scores:

GRANNY GOOSE 75—Quiñahan 21, Lalonio 15, David 8, Saladaga 6, Grijaldo 6, Concha 6, Manalo 5, Ferrer 3, Almeda 2, Cervantes 1, Santos 1, Lanete 1, Alfad 0, Cruz 0, Guerrero 0.

HARBOUR CENTRE 60—Cardona 16, Espinas 13, Tenorio 11, Bugia 7, Mesina 4, Mambrere 3, Gatumbato 3, Gaco 2, Dizon 1, Sanz 0, Luanzon 0, Mendoza 0, Buenafe 0, Castro 0.

Quarters: 15-16, 37-28, 52-50, 75-60.

GABBY Espinas of Harbour Centre tries to find an opening off Alfie Grijaldo of Granny Goose.
AUGUST DELA CRUZ

Fiba-Asia still backing BAP

By Beth Celis

DESPITE its recent suspension, the Fiba (International Basketball Federation) continues to recognize the Basketball Association of the Philippines as the country's governing body for the sport.

"We're here for the Fiba-Asia Champions Cup. We are not withdrawing recognition from the BAP which is hosting this event," said the highly influential Dato Yeoh Choo Hock, secretary-general of Fiba-Asia, yesterday after a dinner-meeting with BAP officials and Sen. Richard Gordon, BAP project director for the 2007 Fiba-Asia Men's Championship bid, at the Manila Peninsula Hotel Friday night.

The BAP was indefinitely suspended by the Philippine Olympic Committee via a unanimous vote from the 37 national sports association members during a general assembly held at POC president Peping Cojuangco's residence in Dasmariñas Village, Makati, last May 25.

A caretaker committee composed of representatives from the PBA, the PBL, the UAAP and the NCAA has been formed to take over the functions of the BAP.

After the tournament, Yeoh said he is willing to help solve the problem by arbitrating between the POC and the BAP "which has direct affiliation with the Fiba" if asked.

"After all, we all have one common objective, and this is to promote basketball in the Philippines and internationally," added Yeoh, who declined to comment on a number of critical issues, including the appointment of athletics president Go Teng Kok as the POC representative to the organizing committee of the Fiba-Asia Champions Cup scheduled today up to June 10.

For his part, Gordon said the POC-BAP rift is crucial to the country's bid to host the Asian cagefest anew.

SPORTSWATCH

NSG Women's Billiards Tournament

THE NATIONAL Sport's Grill Women's Billiard Tournament will be held today at 2 p.m. and no registration fee is required. There are limited slots available so registration closes at 1 p.m. of tournament day. Trophies will be awarded to the 1st, 2nd and 3rd prize winners. The National Sports Grill is at the 3rd floor, Greenbelt 1, Makati City. For details, call 752-5431.

European F1 racing at Speedzone

THE RISING Mild Seven Renault F1 Team will again be tested in this weekend's European F1 GP to be held at the Nurburgring in Germany. After losing out on a podium finish due to tire wear problems, the team is aching to get back on the winning trail in the first back-to-back racing weekend this season. Live F1 racing will be shown at the Mild Seven F1 Club in Speedzone in Fort Bonifacio, Taguig City. The club is open to all race enthusiasts 18 years and older and admission is free. For details, contact MP Turbo at 0919-4921575.

Sulla shatters 3 RP lift records

CEBU CITY—University of Cebu's Jerry Sulla shattered his own RP records to rule the youth 69 kg division of the 2005 National Men and Women 5-in-1 Weightlifting Championships last night at the Baseline Restaurant and Recreation Center here. Sulla improved his record in the snatch (from 80 kg to 85 kg), clean and jerk (from 100 to 110 kg) and changed the total standard from 180 kg to 195 kg. In the 46 kg. category, Joseph Asa of Samjon Club in Bohol set new records in the snatch (from 50 to 62.5), clean and jerk (from 67.5 to 70 kg) and total lift (from 117.5 to 132.5 kg).

Milo BEST goes to Cabuyao tomorrow

MILO BEST Center's summer basketball program goes to Cabuyao, Laguna, with the staging of a weeklong clinic from May 30 to June 4 at the Nestle plant. Classes for levels 1 and 2 will be held from 3 to 7 p.m. Boys and girls interested to join the four-hour sessions may contact Siony Alcasid at Nestle Cabuyao (0920-2130052).

Sky Cable and STAR Sports' 9-Ball Promo

ASIA'S premier 9-Ball Tour is making its final stop in Manila as the San Miguel Asian 9-Ball Tour takes place from June 3- 5 at the Robinson's Galleria Trade Hall. Sky Cable and STAR Sports will be giving lucky Sky Cable and Home Cable subscribers a chance to meet and greet Efren "Bata" Reyes and Francisco "Django" Bustamante and compete in a 9-Ball singles tournament on June 2 at 6 p.m. Register through hotline number 910-1577, Monday to Friday, 9 a.m.-5 p.m. or e-mail marketing@skycable.com.

NCA 7 – Cock derby Tuesday at Araneta

COCKFIGHTING returns at the Araneta Coliseum on Tuesday and Thursday, May 31 and June 2, with the staging of the "National Cockers Association (NCA) 7-Cock Derby. To host the event is the Jaen VGB Greenwood Group. Submission of weights (1.8 kg to 2.4 kg) will be tomorrow from 2 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the Araneta green gate. For inquiries, contact 911-3101 and 911-2928. The opening round (3-cock) sizzles on Tuesday, and the finale on Thursday. Wild Wing Wing Sundance, a combined entry of Rep. Ronnie Puno and noted Boy Jiao of Rizal, emerged as champion in the NCA derby on May 19, after registering six wins and one loss.

Chase for Nokia north slots at Eastridge

EXPECT a spirited battle for the three slots in the Nokia Intervillage golf finals as six teams fight it out in the final 18 holes of the north sector eliminations at the Eastridge Golf and Country Club in Binangonan, Rizal tomorrow. Don Enrique Heights, behind skipper Jose Santos Jr., topped the first round of the qualifiers for villages in Quezon City with a 296, just 9 points ahead of Acropolis under the Stableford scoring system. Acropolis, drawing big rounds from Nelson Ang and Johnny Yu at Forest Hills, pooled a 287 to finish second. La Vista is just a point behind with a 286, Corinthian is at 284 and Xavierville stood at 281. Defending champion Philam Homes shot an opening 275.

More coaching assignments for Chot Reyes

By Musong R. Castillo

PHILIPPINE basketball thinks it can't go wrong with Chot Reyes as the national coach.

This became apparent yesterday after the caretaker committee of the Philippine Olympic Committee now handling the country's basketball affairs yesterday appointed Reyes as mentor of the national women's and Youth teams as well.

Earlier appointed to coach a selection of Philippine Basketball Association stars for the Fiba-Asia men's championship in September, Reyes was also given the additional task of handling the Seaba (Southeast Asian Basketball Association) squad.

The Seaba assignment, which POC president Peping Cojuangco had specifically entrusted to Reyes, was one of the major decisions approved by the basketball committee which the BAP later resented and led to its unanimous suspension from the POC recently.

"I don't want to comment on it for the meantime, pending an official appointment," said Reyes when told of his additional coaching assignments.

The women's team for this year's Southeast Asian Games is in the process of being formed under new coach Raymond Celis, who has been tapped by the BAP to replace old time mentor Bay Cristobal.

Reyes' immediate concern is guiding an all-PBA squad, made up of Fiba-Asian team candidates, in the Champion's Cup beginning today at the Araneta Coliseum.

In yesterday's meeting, the sport's stakeholders in the caretaker committee were asked by Cojuangco to put in writing what they think are the major concerns that need to be immediately addressed.

"It was decided that all parties concerned will forward what they think should be attended to," said Cojuangco spokesperson Joey Romasanta.

Source said Reyes is preparing a team made up of PBL players for the Seaba which he might reinforce with Villanueva, Thoss and another big man.

The Seaba, set June 20-27 in Singapore, is the qualifier for the Southeast Asian region for the Asian championships in Doha, Qatar in September.

In all likelihood, the Seaba team will also represent the country in the Southeast Asian Games basketball tournament in November, where the Philippines is the defending champion.

La Salle takes Shakey's lead

DEFENDING champion La Salle halted San Sebastian's dream run with a convincing 25-23, 25-18, 25-20 victory to wrest back the solo lead in the Shakey's V-League yesterday at the Rizal Memiral Coliseum.

Lady Archer Michelle Carolino came out of a scoring slump, pummeling the Lady Stags with 15 points, all but one coming from kills.

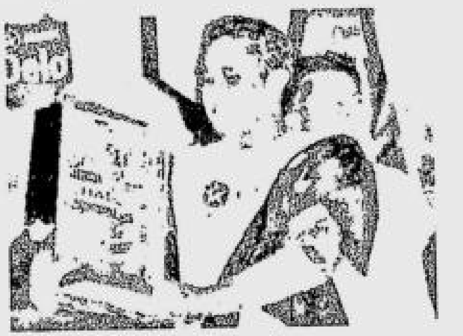
La Salle, which now totes a 4-1 record, guns for its fifth-straight win against archrival Santo Tomas on Monday at 5 p.m.

Cherry Rose Macatangay had a game-high 19 points in a futile bid to keep the Lady Stags' erstwhile immaculate win-loss card unscathed. San Sebastian took its first loss in five assignments.

In the first game, Ateneo bounced back from a stinging blow dealt by San Sebastian on Thursday, crushing Far Eastern, 28-30, 25-20, 25-21, 28-26 for its third win in five outings.

Rallying from a set down, Ateneo's well-balanced offense carried the Eagles into third place at the end of the first elimination round.

Far Eastern, which came off a victorious effort over Lyceum on Thursday, absorbed their fourth setback in five outings. *Karla Tricia V. Magno, contributor*



GANALLO displays his trophy.

Gempesaw cops Delo leadership

TIM Tom Gempesaw of 4Wheelers Davao ruled the 2nd leg of the 2005 Delo Sports National Extreme 4x4 Series at the Quiamco Race Track, San Antonio, Sibulan Metro Dumaguete City recently.

Gempesaw, last season's Off-Roader of the Year, who placed fifth in the first leg in General Santos City, warded off the challenge of Robert Abas of the Adventure Team and Butoy Ganallo of the Cebu Off-Road Club in the three-day meet hosted by the 4x4 Dumaguete Fun Club, headed by Joey Varela.

The Davao standout was at his best in Track B, where his 4:26.76 clinched for him the victory, giving him a five-second advantage (10:32.73) over Abas (10:37.30) in the second stop of the national series backed by Caltex Delo Sports, a synthetic-based engine oil designed for gasoline or diesel powered SUV's and 4x4s.

Davadilla tops 3rd stage...

From page A25

change in the overall leadership today. "I would be happy just to arrive at the finish line," he said in Filipino. "Maybe somebody else would be wearing the yellow jersey by Sunday."

Tanguilig said Warren was just too strong for him yesterday but vowed to go for the lead "if there's an opportunity."

One thing going against Tanguilig is the fact that none of his teammates are in the top 20.

Former newspaper boy Sherwin Diamsay of Tourism took third place for the stage and inevitably brought back the painful memory of last year when he was stripped of the stage win which incidentally also ended in this tourist haven.

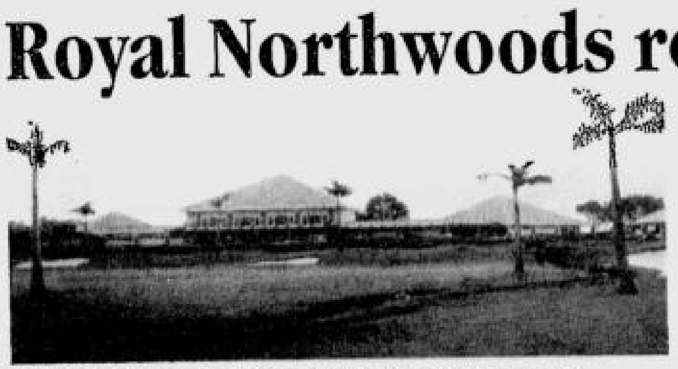
He was fielding questions from reporters after crossing the finish line first when organizers informed him that he was being penalized by the chief commisaire for bumping Lloyd Reynante in the final sprint.

He was denied of the stage win and eventually abandoned the race later in the Tour.

Stage 1 winner Santy Barnachea also of Touch Mobiline remained fourth overall while Fernando Alagano of Metro Drug slid to sixth behind Vat Rider Mcquin Aleonar, who finished with the 12th best time yesterday.

The event is presented by Tanduay, supported by the Department of Tourism and sponsored by Sunbolt (official sports drink), Summit (official water), Osaka Iridology, Island Souvenirs, PhilAm Life and Nestlé Power Bar and is sanctioned by the PhilCycling.

Royal Northwoods ready for Samsung Am Tour



THE FINISHING hole in front of the Northwoods club house

ROYAL Northwoods, that jewel of a course in San Rafael, Bulacan, has been spruced up in time for the Samsung Amateur Golf Tour, which fires off May 31 with the country's top amateurs vying for honors in various divisions.

Preparations have actually been implemented two months ago with club manager Mike Cedo assuring participants of the layout's readiness to challenge the competing field.

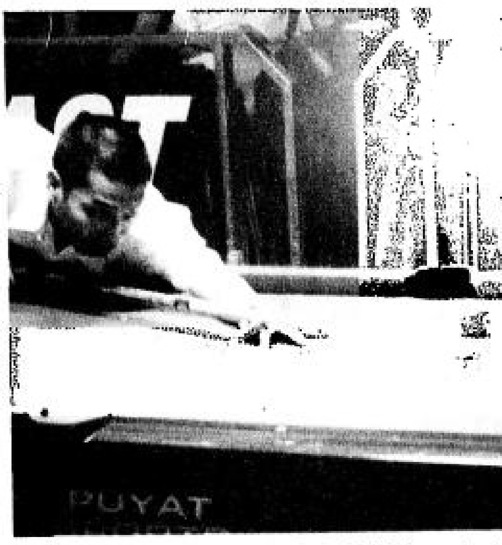
The par-72, Graham Marsh-designed Royal Northwoods is hosting a tournament of this magnitude for the first time with the Championship Division set for 72 holes. Also on tap in the event ending June 3 is the 36-hole tournament for Classes A to D in the men's division and Classes A to C in women's play.

For details on the Samsung Amateur Golf Tour, contact the organizing Professional Sports Management Group at (632) 635-0010 and fax (632) 631-5768.

Malvinne, Jan win

KAWASAKI/Sports Hub's Malvinne Alcala and Jan Banquiles of Centro Athletico-Accel crowned themselves champions in the girls' and boys' divisions of the 10-under class in the JVC Badminton Open Juniors Championships at SM Megamall yesterday.

Alcala, an incoming Grade 3 pupil at the Marikina Christian Integrated School, scuttled Shuttler's Haven's Nikki Therese Servando, 11-1, 11-9, for the girls' title while Banquiles subdued Al Craven Chan of RSL, 15-11, 9-15, 15-12, for the boys' crown.



PAGULAYAN eyes the ball and the P.5M champion's purse.

HOPE ALL-FILIPINO

'The Lion' trounces Django

ALEX Pagulayan showed why's he's the reigning world champion, beating Francisco "Django" Bustamante, 9-3, Friday night in the Hope P1-M All-Filipino Billiards Challenge at the LS 2 of IBC 13 in Tandang Sora, Quezon City.

Fresh from a pair of easy 9-2 victories over Lee Van Corteza and Carlo Biado in the elimination phase, the 26-year-old Filipino-Canadian from Toronto played almost flawlessly to frustrate Bustamante in the weeklong tournament sponsored by Hope in cooperation with Puyat Sports and Jemah Television.

The win boosted the chances of Pagulayan, nicknamed "The Lion," for the whopping P500,000 cash prize for the champion.

Pagulayan's smashing triumph before a highly-appreciative crowd came after Efren "Bata" Reyes made short work of fast-rising Richard Aguilar, 9-4, in another one-sided affair.

Reyes, whose string of triumphs this year included a first-place finish in the Derby City Classic Masters, raced to an early 5-2 lead and never looked back in beating Aguilar.

Aguilar earned the right to meet Reyes following a thrilling 9-8 victory over veteran internationalist Leonardo Andam.

Later in the night, Bustamante kept his hopes alive by defeating Antonio Gabica, 9-4.

Bustamante, who had a trouble-free ride following lopsided victories over Antonio Lining and Jeffrey de Luna, came up with precise shotmaking to keep the veteran from Cebu at bay.

The matches are being aired by Jemah Television on IBC 13 from 8:30 p.m. to 11:30 p.m.

Spring Oil-Laguna five repulses Taiwan Beer

HWALIN, Taiwan—All-Filipino squad Spring Cooking Oil-Laguna boosted its qualifying chances in the Kwan Hu Cup Invitational Cup basketball tournament here by subduing Taiwan Beer, 91-85, Friday night.

KG Canaleta, Marlon Kalaw, Don Villamin, Samique Eman and Mel Latoreno scored in double figures as the Spring-Laguna team of NBC (National Basketball Conference) president Nathaniel "Tac" Padilla and Gov. Teresita "Ningning" Lazaro evened its record at 1-win, 1-loss.

Canaleta and Kalaw topscored with 14 points each, Villamin and Eman chipped in 11 each and Latoreno added 10.

Missing the services of their import, American Geremy Robinson who failed to make it here, the Filipinos dropped a close 94-102 decision to Eastern Network in the tourney's opener Thursday. But their chances of advancing to the crossover semifinals improved after Jeoutai nipped Eastern, 83-80.

In other games, the Yulan Dinos trimmed Sina Lions, 85-79, and the Videolan Hunters shocked import-laden Aisin Swanhorses of Japan, 96-93.

"It's a big victory for our boys. We proved that even without an import, we can match up with some of the best club teams from Korea, Japan and Taiwan," said Padilla.

Coach Vic Sanchez praised his wards for their consistency and fighting spirit.

The Filipinos, who are supported by Nature's Spring, and Jeoutai are playing at presstime.

The Scores:

SPRING-LAGUNA 91—Canaleta 14, Kalaw 14, Villamin 11, EMan 11, Latoreno 10, M. Reyes 9, Mendoza 7, Melendo 5, Corbin 4, Madrid 4, Manuel 2.

TAIWAN BEER 85—Li 20, Pan 19, Young 9, Wu 8, Yo 8, Ha 5, Lu 5, Lin 5, Ho 5.

Quarters: 25-18, 48-43, 68-64, 91-85

Japan sweeps Asian volley elims

JAPAN flashed some kind of resiliency as it fought back from an opening set loss and turned back Australia, 21-25, 25-19, 25-18, 25-10, yesterday to sweep Pool A in the fifth Asian Girls Under-18 Volleyball Championships at the Mandaue Sports Complex in Mandaue City.

Stunned by the gritty Aussies in the first set, the Japanese settled down and played good defense in the second frame to draw level then rolled to victories in the next two to notch the win, their third in as many games at the close of the eliminations of the tournament sanctioned by the Asian Volleyball Federation and organized by the Philippine Volleyball Federation.

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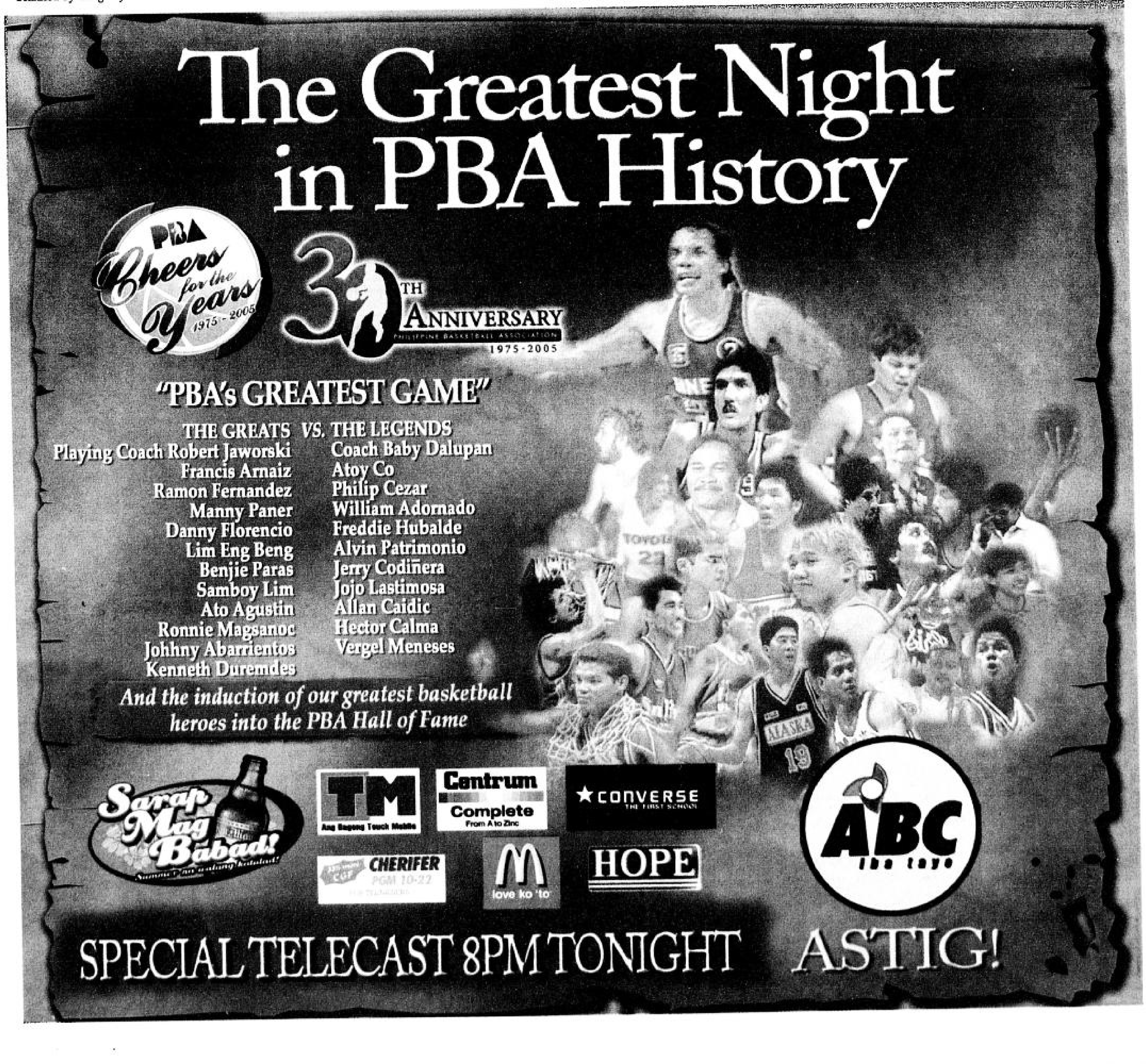
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Lim Eng Beng / Alvin Patrimonio
Benjie Paras / Jerry Codiñera
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FRENCH OPEN

Teener sends Venus home

PARIS—Venus Williams did plenty to beat herself, and 15-year-old Sesil Karatantcheva took care of the rest.

The young Bulgarian upset an erratic Williams, 6-3, 1-6, 6-1, Friday in the third round of the French Open.

"I had never heard of her before this match," Williams said. "She played well, definitely. But I also felt like if I just played 10 percent better, I'm going to win this match easily."

Williams hit just nine winners and committed 52 unforced errors, including seven double faults. She lost serve nine times, including all four service games in the final set.

It was the latest Grand Slam disappointment for the 11th-seeded Williams, who was seeking her fifth major title and her first since 2001. She hoped for a strong showing at Roland Garros after winning a final for the first time in a year last week at Istanbul.

Williams showed up for the customary post-match news conference after her defeat, explaining that she was eager to return to Florida.

"I want to leave," she said. "I have nothing more to do here. I just want to go."

Younger sister Serena missed the tournament because of a lingering ankle injury.

Karatantcheva, ranked 98th, won the Roland Garros juniors title last year and earned her first victory in a Grand Slam match earlier this week.

But few expected her to give Williams trouble.

"She really didn't play her best tennis," Karatantcheva said. "I definitely don't think it was the Venus Williams I watch on TV and I see when I started out. But for me, I did give what I could give. I like that I won, no matter what."

Lindsay Davenport refused to wilt in the 85-degree midday heat despite being pushed to three sets for the third consecutive match. The top-ranked Davenport survived her toughest test yet and beat unseeded Frenchwoman Virginie Razzano, 7-5, 4-6, 6-4.

"It has been a struggle here," Davenport said. "I'm pretty amazed I'm still here, given how I feel I've been playing. It gives me a laugh."

Davenport's fourth-round opponent will be two-time French Open runner-up Kim Clijsters, who eliminated No. 20-seeded Daniela Hantuchova, 6-4, 6-2.

Clijsters has beaten Davenport in their past six meetings.

"Not the record you want going into a match with someone," Davenport said. "I have a tough time playing her on my favorite surface, let alone my least favorite, clay."

They'll meet on clay for the first time. A victory would put Davenport in the quarterfinals for the first time since 1999 at Roland Garros, the lone Grand Slam title she has yet to win.

Top-ranked Roger Federer, bidding for his first French Open title, beat No. 25-seeded Fernando Gonzalez, 7-6 (9), 7-5, 6-2. Federer hit 11 aces, improved to 44-2 this year and said he fears no one in the draw.

Federer next plays No. 14-seeded Carlos Moya, the 1998 champion. Moya failed to convert four match points in the third set and two more in the fifth before finishing off Fernando Vicente, 6-4, 7-6 (4), 6-7 (3), 0-6, 6-4.

Defending champion Gaston Gaudio, seeded fifth, beat Felix Mantilla, 6-4, 6-4, 6-3. No. 21 Mary Pierce, the 2000 women's champion, beat No. 9 Vera Zvonareva, 7-6 (2), 7-5.

No. 4 Elena Dementieva, the runner-up last year, beat Akiko Morigami, 6-3, 4-6, 6-3. Dementieva next plays Russian compatriot Elena Likhovtseva, seeded 16th, who beat Silvia Farina Elia, 7-5, 7-6 (2).

Young Karatantcheva was steady from the baseline and displayed a game reminiscent of Dementieva, only with a better serve. *AP*

IT'S SO easy to be in a jovial mood if you're Sesil Karatantcheva. The 15-year-old Bulgarian smiles after a huge upset over Venus Williams. AFP

Nadal wins duel of net prodigies

PARIS—Tennis fans may be ready for the game's next great rivalry, but don't expect Rafael Nadal to agree.

Nadal, who is seeded fourth in his debut French Open, beat fellow teenager Richard Gasquet, 6-4, 6-3, 6-2, to advance to the fourth round at Roland Garros.

Born just 15 days apart, Gasquet and Nadal are considered to be the next generation of tennis greats.

The pair met Friday for the second time this season—Nadal's second win over the Frenchman.

"There has been a sort of rivalry made up and I don't think it exists," Nadal said. "We're two young players. Probably he is going to be very soon among the top 10. There has been a lot of talk. Possibly he has been affected by the pressure."

Nadal scrambled to win the final point of the second set with a backhand off the wrong foot, threw a leaping uppercut in celebration and backpedaled to his chair.

"It's so tough," said Gasquet, who lost his opening service game in each set and a total seven times. "It was so hot, but I did my best. Congratulations to Rafael. He was exceptional today."

Gasquet looked nervous when he stepped onto center court amid cheering French fans. He occasionally troubled his fellow 18-year-old by bringing him up to the net and passing him down the line, but his normally lethal backhand proved erratic throughout and he sent too many forehands long.

"The pressure affected us both and I think probably with everything that has been said, he had more [pressure] than me," Nadal said. "I did not expect to win like this. I play very good today." *AP*

DRAGONS ALL

Southeast Asian Games veteran and San Miguel Beermen team manager Samboy "The Skywalker" Lim, also known during his playing days as "The Dragon," gives a pep talk to members of the San Mig Light-RP Dragonboat team after their practice session at the Manila Bay. The Dragonboat racers are looking forward to another gold medal, in the same spirit as their win in the 2003 SEA Games in Vietnam. The men's event for the traditional boat race will be held at the La Mesa Dam, Novaliches, Quezon City. Lim is the San Miguel SEA Games project director for Dragonboat and Muay Thai.

Annika soars to lead share

CORNING, New York—Annika Sorenstam shot a 4-under 68 on Friday to tie Sherri Turner for the second-round lead at the LPGA Corning Classic.

Sorenstam, seeking her fifth win in six starts this year, jumped to the top of the leaderboard after a four-hour delay caused by lightning and rain.

Play was stopped because of darkness after Sorenstam's threesome finished.

Turner, who finished before the rain delay, shot a 1-under 71 for a two-round total of 7-under 137.

The rain softened the course and made the scoring easier after the wind-swept first round.

Sung Ah Yim of South Korea birdied No. 2, aced the third hole, and birdied the next two holes for a stunning rally that moved her to 6 under with two holes to play. She was tied with Moira Dunn, who shot a 68, and Karine Icher, who had four holes to play.

South Korea's Jimin Kang and first-round co-leader Sophie Gustafson were at 5 under and also had to complete their rounds. *AP*

Johnson return good for Nash

SAN ANTONIO—The NBA playoffs should be about to get easier for Steve Nash.

With the return of Joe Johnson to the Phoenix Suns in time for Game 3 of the Western Conference finals on Saturday night, Nash no longer has to guard San Antonio's Tony Parker. Guarding the French star is now Johnson's duty.

When the Suns have the ball, Nash will no longer be the second scoring option after center Amare Stoudemire. That'll be Johnson's job, too, as will running the offense so Nash can have some rare time off to catch his breath.

"I've had a lot of minutes in a lot of games and a ton of responsibility lately," the league MVP said Friday. "I think it will keep me a little bit fresher, but I don't know if that will have an impact on the game."

It can't hurt.

Although Nash has cleared any doubts about his MVP status with the way he's played in Johnson's absence, Phoenix still trails this series 0-2 with the next two games on the road. No team has ever come back to win the conference finals or Finals when facing those circumstances.

If the Suns lose Game 3, the odds really would be against them. No NBA team has ever rallied from a three-game deficit to win a series, in any round.

So, uh, welcome back, Joe.

"I don't feel any pressure," Johnson said. "I'm just going to go out and play. Whatever the results may be, that's that."

Johnson has been out since a face-first fall from the rim May 11 against Dallas. *AP*

Hot Aussie in battles Cover Empire King

By Edwin Villanueva
Contributor

STOWAWAY Lass was a non-factor the last time she clashed with Cover Girl and Empire King.

That may no longer be the case today when she faces the two big guns of local racing in the 31st Marho Founders' Cup at the San Lazaro Leisure Park.

The Aussie import impressed observers when she won her last race, prompting her owner to declare that she's ready to take on the big guns' challenge once more.

"*Inaasahan ko na maganda ang itatakbo niya* (I expect her to run a good race)," said businessman Dodo Atienza, looking forward to this afternoon's confrontation, of his steadily improving galloper.

Exactly two weeks ago, Stowaway Lass routed her rivals in the second leg of the 2005 Imported Stakes at the Carmona, Cavite, track—her favorite running ground—here she is now on a three-race winning streak.

The 6-year-old bay mare by With Class out of Royal Pirate had a light workout recently, a regimen which, Atienza added, favors his horse's conditioning prior to a big race.

"We found out that she's not used to heavy workouts and that's the adjustment that we made," said Atienza, an off-track betting station operator.

Stowaway Lass faced Empire King and Cover Girl in the Freedom Cup last Feb. 25 but wound up only eighth among 12 runners in the event where Empire King and Cover Girl finished 1-2.

In this afternoon's mainer staged by the Metropolitan Association of Race Horse Owners headed by its president,

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TIPS

AT SLLP BY MR. 999

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Race 2—1. Pivotal 2. Quick Pick 3. Gelay's Charm 4. Bashful Lady
Race 3—1. Money Maker 2. Wing Away
Race 4—1. Latin Success 2. Reklamador 3. Morning Beauty 4. Ingay Ingay 5. Ho Ho Ho 6. Northern Reef
Race 5—1. Dali Dali 2. Zero Gravity 3. Arigato 4. In D Wind
Race 6—1. Uncle Buck/Angie Red 2. Refreshing 3. Golden Cat 4. Iron Will 5. Legally Blonde
Race 7—1. Cover Girl/West Bound 2. Stowaway Lass 3. Empire King

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Jets crush Lions Tribu tabs No. 2

BAGUIO CITY—The Parañaque Jets spoiled the debut of the Baguio Lions, posting a lopsided 102-74 victory Friday in the 2005 Panasonic-NBC National Basketball Championship at the UB gym.

The Jets, coming off a loss to Cavite last week, led from start to finish behind the heroics of preseason MVP Niño Marquez, who led a balanced attack with 22 points.

Edbert Ton sparkled for the Texas Instruments/Beneco-backed Lions with 19 markers.

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iday Plaza-Cebu.

Having dogs is also a sport

SPECTATOR

Al S. Mendoza

THE BEAUTY with dogs is, their loyalty is beyond doubt.

The trouble with dogs is—like you and me—they also die.

As I love to say here, sports is life and life is sports. Dogs I consider more than the spice of life. They are also sports because they make me win and they make me lose, they make me laugh and they make me cry.

I never cry that much but when a dog of mine dies, I cry. Like when Batik, my dog of nearly 15 years, died a few days back.

Like Kulog before her, Batik had to be also buried on the front yard—beside Kulog, who passed away a few years ago.

From one red gumamela, there are now two gumamelas strewn on their tombs every morning whenever I can.

Kulog means thunder in Tagalog (as if you didn't know). Batik means run in Pangasinense (that, my dear Joseph, you didn't know).

They were of contrasting traits. And virtues.

Come rain or shine, Kulog had been always on my side when she was still around. When I was home, she was virtually my shadow, tailing me wherever I go—even when I took a leak.

We were practically inseparable. There were times when, while writing my columns at home on my Toshiba laptop, she'd insist on sitting on my lap. I obliged, particularly when she'd just taken her bath. Besides, Kulog was quite small, she being a toy pincher. Only when I would leave the house for an errand or the like would she accede to stay behind, nay grudgingly.

Kulog was the most jealous four-legged lover that I ever had.

Anybody coming near me, including Sol F. Juvida, she'd resent it—at times violently. Given her nature, Kulog would defend me to death.

We show our teeth when we smile.

Kulog, like all dogs I guess, showed her teeth when she was angry.

Anyone extending a hand to me for a handshake, Kulog would treat that as unfriendly. In an instant, Kulog would catch the hand with her mouth. She would not bite the hand, but the owner of the hand would have that shock virtually etched permanently in his/her mind.

Kulog had her own "bed"—a wicker basket with a bed sheet and a pillow. Only when it was time for bed did she allow that we'd separate. When I say, "*Tulog na*, Kulog (it's time for bed, Kulog)," she'd dutifully head for her basket—placed outside my bedroom. Head down as though in gloom, eyelids drooping like withered flowers, she'd literally tiptoe her way to her bed.

Only once did she not sleep in her bed—on the eve of her death. No matter how hard I tried to coax her to go to bed, she refused. She wouldn't leave my bedroom even if I threatened her with bodily harm. So, that night, with rains beating against my windowpanes, she slept in my room.

The next morning, she fell sick and I brought her to the hospital. In the afternoon of that day, she died.

Tears flowed from my eyes as I dug her grave on the front yard.

Batik was of the "kinder" type, not inheriting the "canine devotion" of her mother, Kulog. She wouldn't even bark at my visitors, ushering them in with her tail wagging endlessly.

We were also almost that close. But unlike Kulog, Batik never insisted on being with me whenever I was home. Her only condition was, every time I came home, that I would caress her head and allow her to embrace me, if not scratch my tummy. After that ritual, she'd be fine and sit still virtually the rest of the day.

Batik battled old age with valor. She was dying when I had to leave one day for an out-of-town trip. She was fighting death tooth and nail, struggling, her legs kicking, as she lay there helplessly like a fallen warrior.

At the North Luzon Expressway, I "texted" my daughter, Aya, suggesting a euthanasia for Batik. About an hour had elapsed before I received the reply via text: "No need, Po[illegible] Batik is gone."

Before I could press "exit," a tear fell.

Having dogs is also a sport. The joy it brings us isn't cheap thrill. It has the equivalent of winning an Olympic medal. It is when death strikes that that medal melts like ice cream in the sun.

It is in the dying, though, that the cycle in sports is completed.

You win some, you lose some.

You laugh, you cry.

***

FASTBREAK. Pareng Joven Florido and his wife, Elvie, played gracious hosts to [illegible] *bayans* Turing and Lita Francia at their beautiful house in Calauag, Quezon, this weekend. Pareng Louie Visorde, Ching Ferna[illegible], Soly and I were also in the gathering and we enjoyed every minute of it. The talimago was great, Mareng Elvie! Cheers!

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PORTS

mport Girl, anew

h" Puyat, Cover Girl will other loss to Empire King feated in the First Gentleip last May 8.

Jonathan Hernandez is Girl again but Empire King ew partner in Antonio Alteran of several big-time of regular pilot Jeffrey La-

asid, only two other jocken Empire King other than y are Hernandez and Pat th were unsuccessful.

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g the 1,600-meter event rho's founding chair and uardo Cojuangco Jr., are (Cover Girl's coupled enind and another import, man.

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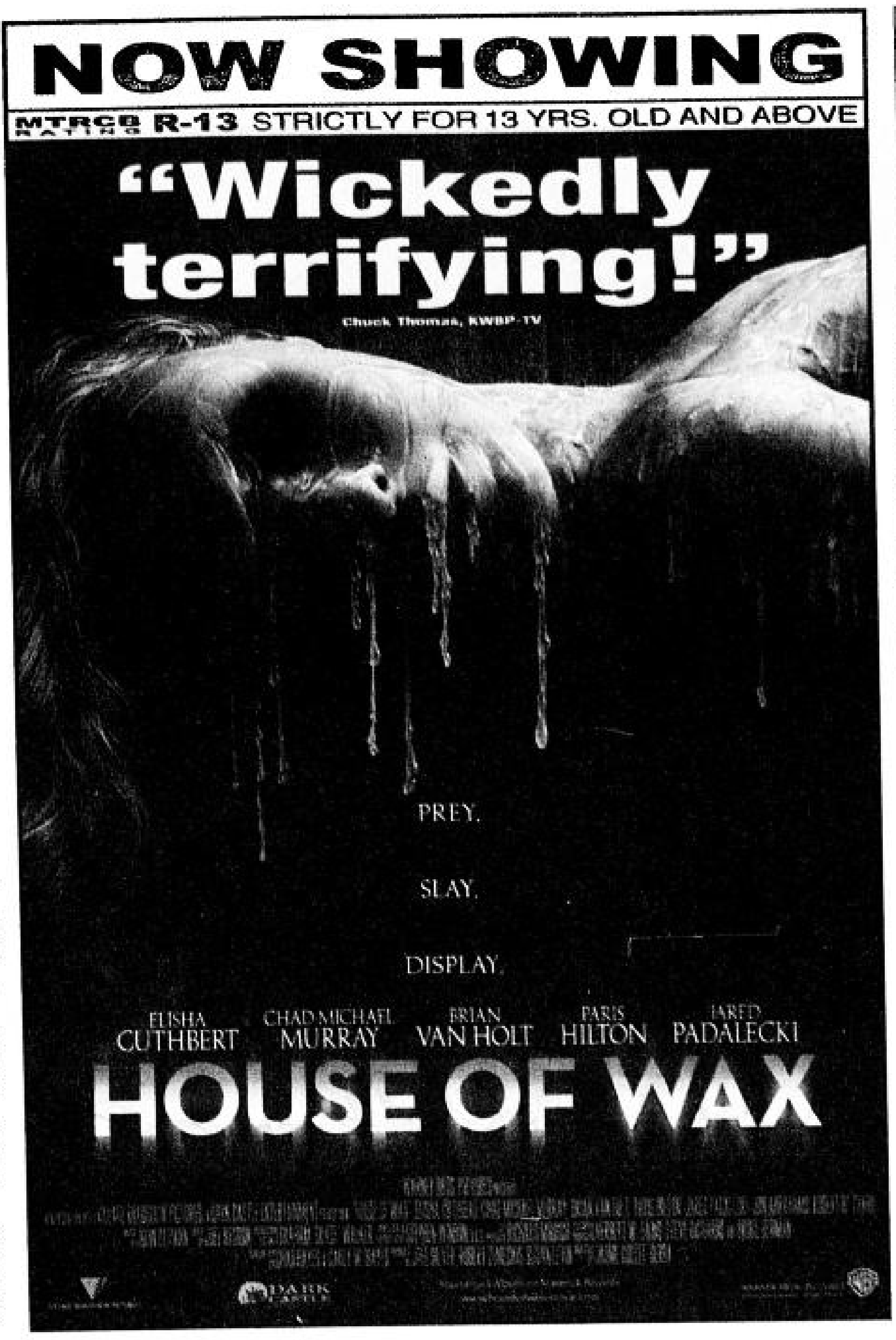
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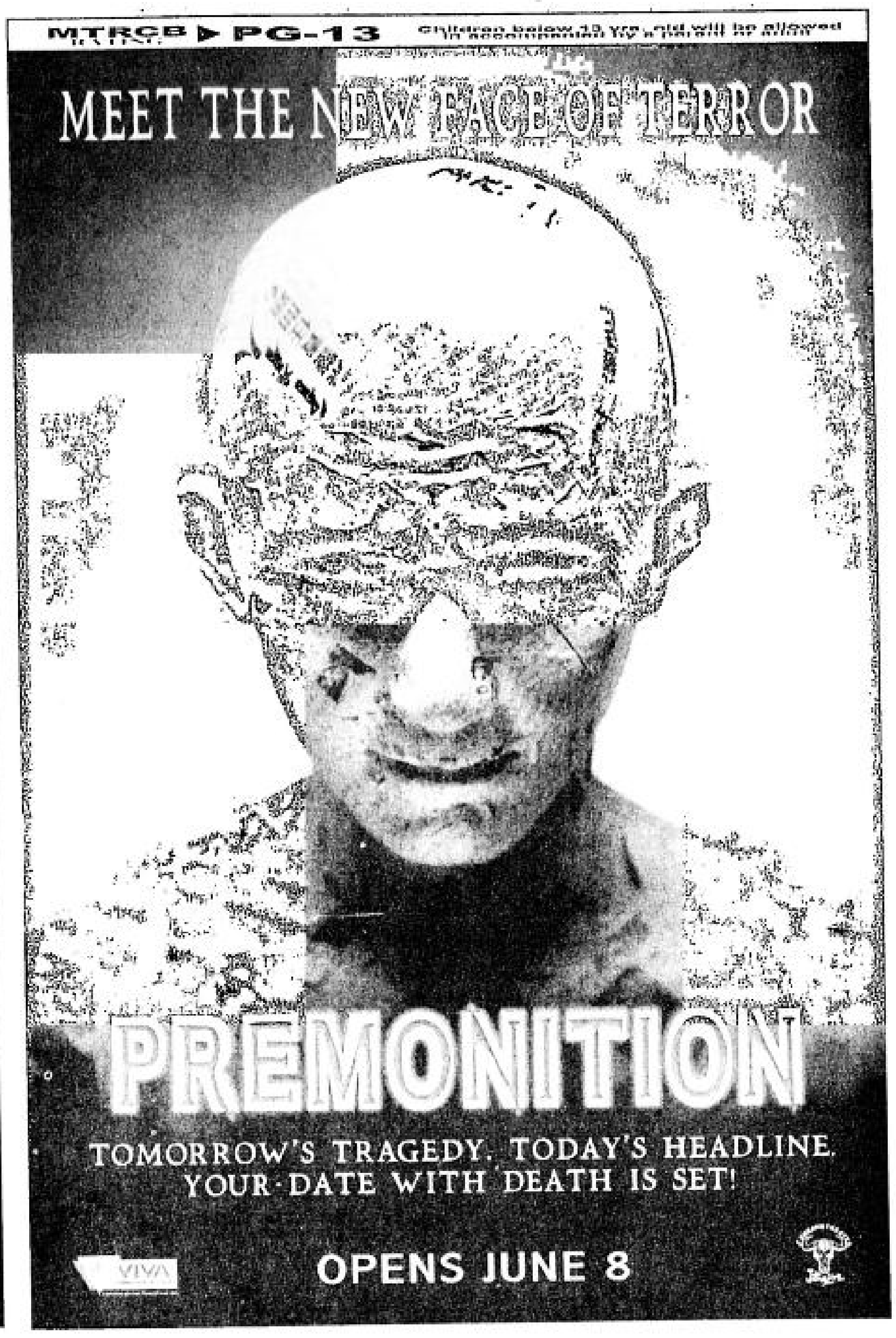
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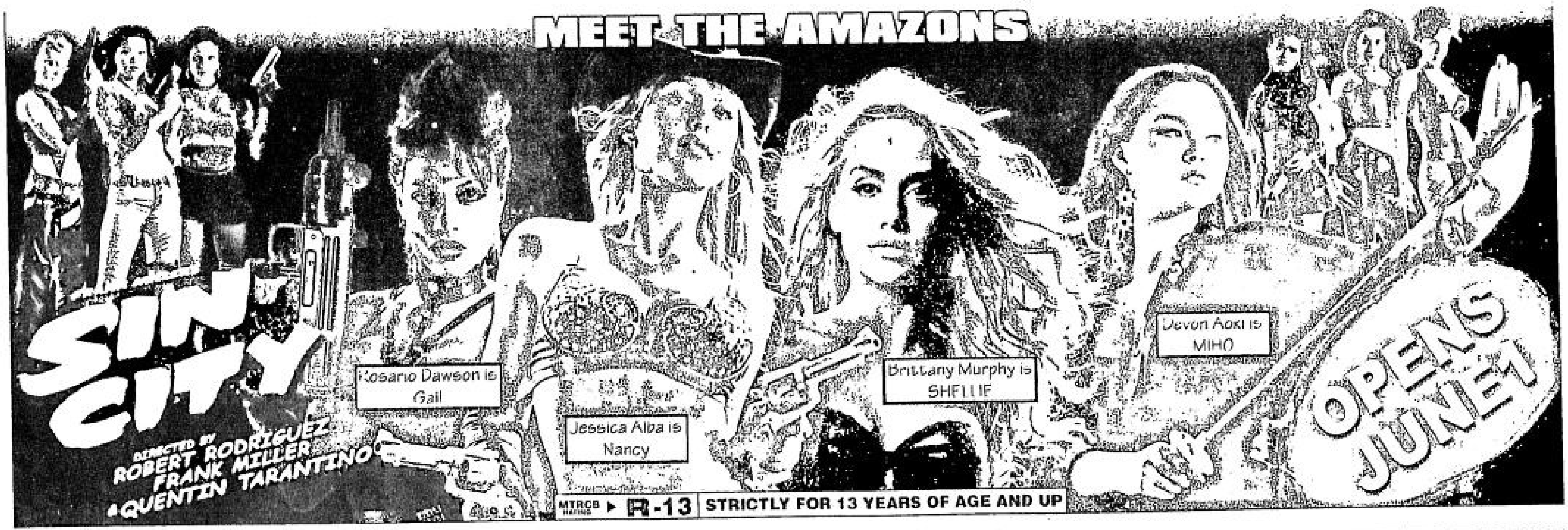
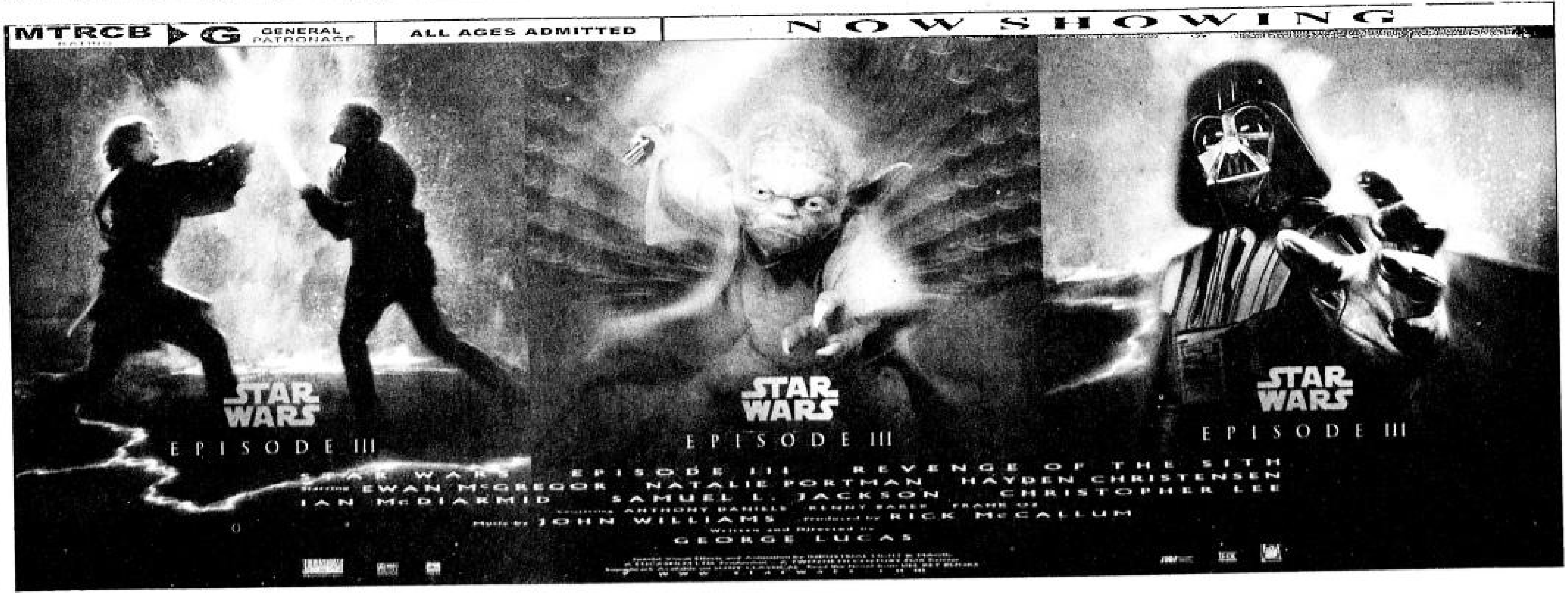
MEET THE NEW FACE OF TERROR
PREMONITION
TOMORROW'S TRAGEDY. TODAY'S HEADLINE.
YOUR DATE WITH DEATH IS SET!
VIVA
OPENS JUNE 8

NOW SHOWING
MTRCB RATING G FOR GENERAL AUDIENCE
FROM THE CREATORS OF SHREK
BEN STILLER
CHRIS ROCK
DAVID SCHWIMMER
JADA PINKETT SMITH
THEY WEREN'T BORN IN THE WILD...
THEY WERE SHIPPED THERE
MADAGASCAR
DREAMWORKS ANIMATION SKG
www.madagascar-themovie.com


MEET THE AMAZONS
SIN CITY
DIRECTED BY ROBERT RODRIGUEZ FRANK MILLER & QUENTIN TARANTINO
Rosario Dawson is Gail
Jessica Alba is Nancy
Brittany Murphy is SHELLIE
Devon Aoki is MIHO
OPENS JUNE 1
MTRCB RATING R-13 STRICTLY FOR 13 YEARS OF AGE AND UP


MTRCB RATING G GENERAL PATRONAGE
ALL AGES ADMITTED
NOW SHOWING
STAR WARS EPISODE III
STAR WARS EPISODE III
STAR WARS EPISODE III
STAR WARS EPISODE III REVENGE OF THE SITH
Starring EWAN McGREGOR NATALIE PORTMAN HAYDEN CHRISTENSEN
IAN McDIARMID SAMUEL L. JACKSON CHRISTOPHER LEE
ANTHONY DANIELS KENNY BAKER FRANK OZ
Music by JOHN WILLIAMS Produced by RICK McCALLUM
Written and Directed by GEORGE LUCAS

BEST COPY AVAILABLE

JUNIOR CHESS

Nava, Cua take home titles

NATIONAL Master Roderick Nava halved the point with top seed Fide Master Wesley So to complete a wire-to-wire victory in the boys' division of the 2005 National Juniors Championship Friday at the Activity Center of SM City Manila.

The third-seeded Nava finished the nine-round Swiss System tournament with 8.0 points on seven wins and two draws.

In a final-round shocker in the distaff side, sixth seed WNM Catherine Pereña took the measure of top seed and overnight leader WNM Aices Salvador to forge a three-way tie for the top spot with early pacesetter Sherily Cua.

Cua split the point with Danielle Day Estrada in the final round.

That proved enough for Cua to capture the title after emerging with superior head-to-head record among the top finishers.

Von Arbie Barbosa scalped RJ Magallanes to place second in the boys' division with 7.5 points.

Kim Steven Yap, Dino Ballecer and NM Julius Joseph de Ramos shared third to fifth spots another half point behind.

SM CINEMA movietime

Central Park Zoo animals face freedom as they stow away to the island of

MADAGASCAR

Piggyback to this outrageous adventure now showing at the newly renovated SM Premiere Cinemas.

MADAGASCAR

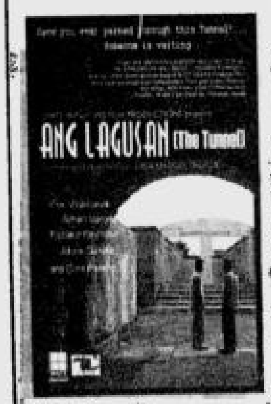
Catch Madagascar's psychotic penguins as they visit the newly renovated SM Premiere Cinemas!

FOR INFORMATION ON MOVIE LISTING, MTRCB RATING, SCREENING, SCHEDULES AND THE LATEST HAPPENINGS AT SM CINEMA

CALLUS@ 833-9999

VISITUS@ www.smcinema.co

smcinemaexclusive



From the producers of the International critically aclaimed film "Sa Kandungan ng Langit" [Best Drama Feature Film award, New York International Independent Film And Video Festival 2004 and Winner, Remi platinum award to the World Film Festival, Houston, Texas] comes another rivetingtale about a man in search for his true identity in Ang Lagusan.

Watch this enthralling Digital Film starring Cris Villanueva, Gina pareño and Alfred Vargas. Showing exclusively at SM City Sta Mesa

GUARANTEED SEATS

the podium cinema
1. MADAGASCAR
11:00 FS / 11:30 MF / 2:10 / 4:30 / 5:30 9:40 LFS / 10:10 LMF / 12:30 END
2. STAR WARS : EPISODE III
12:10 FS / 12:40 MF / 2:40 / 4:40 / 6:40 8:40 / 10:10 LFS / 10:40 LMF / 12:10 END
633-6878

sm megamall cinema 1
STAR WARS : EPISODE III
[illegible]

sm cebu cinema 1
CINEMA 1: KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
11:20 FS / 11:30 MF / 2:00 / 4:30 / 7:00 9:25 LFS / 9:30 LMF / 11:55 END
CINEMA 3: STAR WARS: EPISODE III
10:30 FS / 11:00 MF / 1:39 / 4:16 / 6:53 9:13 LFS / 9:30 LMF / 11:50 END
(032) 231-3876

sm manila cinema 6
UNLEASHED
10:30 FS / 10:40 MF / 12:30 / 2:20 / 4:10 / 6:00 7:50 / 9:30 LFS / 9:40 LMF / 11:35 END
523-8240

METRO MANILA

sm megamall
1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 UNLEASHED
3 MADAGASCAR
4 BUNTIS CONGRESS YEAR 3
5 AMITYVILLE HORROR
6 HOUSE OF WAX
7 RESERVED
8 RESERVED
9 RESERVED
10 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
11 TRUMPETS
12 LA VISA LOCA

sm city fairview
1 POOHS HEFFALUMP MOVIE
2 IN GOOD COMPANY
3 CAN THIS BE LOVE
4 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
5 UNLEASHED
6 LA VISA LOCA
7 HOUSE OF WAX
8 MADAGASCAR
9 BIKINI OPEN
10 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
11 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
12 STAR WARS : EPISODE III

sm city north edsa
1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 HOUSE OF WAX
3 RESERVED
4 BIKINI OPEN
5 LA VISA LOCA
6 MADAGASCAR
7 STAR WARS: EPISODE III
8 UNLEASHED

sm city manila
1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 MADAGASCAR
3 ARE WE THERE YET?
4 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
5 xXx 2 : THE NEXT LEVEL
6 UNLEASHED
7 HOUSE OF WAX
8 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
9 LA VISA LOCA
10 CAN THIS BE LOVE
11 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
12 BIKINI OPEN

sm city sta. mesa
1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 HOUSE OF WAX
3 UNLEASHED
4 RESERVED
5 RESERVED
6 BIKINI OPEN
7 MADAGASCAR
8 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
9 LA VISA LOCA
10 ANG LAGUSAN

sm city southmall
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
4 UNLEASHED
5 BIKINI OPEN
6 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
7 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
8 MADAGASCAR
9 HOUSE OF WAX
10 LA VISA LOCA

sm city bicutan
1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 LA VISA LOCA
3 HOUSE OF WAX
4 UNLEASHED

sm cinema tutuban
1 RESERVED
2 RESERVED
3 RESERVED
4 RESERVED

sm supercenter sucat
1 LA VISA LOCA
2 UNLEASHED
3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
4 HOUSE OF WAX

LUZON

sm city pampanga
1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
3 AMITYVILLE HORROR
4 BIKINI OPEN
5 MADAGASCAR
6 LA VISA LOCA

sm city baguio
1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 MADAGASCAR
3 LA VISA LOCA
4 BUNTIS CONGRESS YEAR 3

sm city batangas
1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 LA VISA LOCA
3 GLOBE GIZMO CINEMANIA
4 MADAGASCAR

sm city dasmariñas
1 MADAGASCAR
2 LA VISA LOCA
3 IN GOOD COMPANY
4 STAR WARS : EPISODE III

sm city marilao
1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 LA VISA LOCA
3 MADAGASCAR
4 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR

sm city bacoor
1 AMITYVILLE HORROR
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
3 UNLEASHED
4 HOUSE OF WAX
5 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
6 LA VISA LOCA
7 MADAGASCAR
8 BIKINI OPEN

sm city lucena
1 MADAGASCAR
2 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
3 LA VISA LOCA
4 THE WEDDING DATE

VISAYAS AND MINDANAO

sm city cebu
1 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
2 RESERVED
3 STAR WARS : EPISODEIII
4 MADAGASCAR
5 STAR WARS : EPISODEIII
6 LA VISA LOCA
7 UNLEASHED
8 BUNTIS CONGRESS YEAR 3

sm city iloilo
1 BIKINI OPEN
2 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
3 BUNTIS CONGRESS YEAR 3
4 MADAGASCAR
5 LA VISA LOCA
6 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
7 RESERVED
8 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN

sm city davao
1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 MADAGASCAR
3 BUNTIS CONGRESS YEAR 3
4 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
5 LA VISA LOCA
6 UNLEASHED

sm city cagayan de oro
1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III
2 BUNTIS CONGRESS YEAR 3
3 LA VISA LOCA
4 STAR WARS : EPISODE III

SCHEDULES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

THE INCREDIBLES
PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN
NEMO
TREASURE

GLOBE GIZMO PREPAID CINEMANIA

Get 3 FREE TICKETS to the Disney Blockbuster of your choice PLUS, complimentary popcorn and drinks for the family!

Offer exclusive to Globe Gizmo Subscribers

Claim your tickets at the SM Cinema in your city 2 days prior to screening!
The first 600 Gizmos to show up at the Gizmo booth will be given tickets to the movie of their choice. Limited slots available per movie. First come, first serve

Venue	Date	Venue	Date
SM Megamall	May 28	SM City Baguio	June 5
SM City Batangas	May 29	SM City Davao	June 11
SM City Pampanga	June 4	SM City Cagayan de Oro	June 12

Globe

SHANG CINEPLEX

① MADAGASCAR
MTRCB: GP
12:40, 3:00, 5:20, 7:40, 10:00pm

② STAR WARS III
MTRCB: GP
10:40, 1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00

③ HOUSE OF WAX
MTRCB: R-13
11:25, 2:00, 4:35, 7:10, 9:50

④ STAR WARS III
MTRCB: GP
12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00

PREMIERE THEATRE MADAGASCAR
MTRCB : GP 12:10, 2:30, 4:50, 7:10, 9:30 pm

Movies and schedules are subject to change without prior notice.

Catch the Cineplex Special

Enjoy MADAGASCAR at the Shang Cineplex !
Regular Screening starts this Friday, May 27
Meet The Penguins at the Shang on Sunday, May 29

Enjoy Double Treats

Get one (1) free URBANSPA Express Massage or a P250 Urban Spa cash coupon for every single purchase of four (4) Shang Cineplex (Cinema 1-4) or Two (2) Premiere Theatre tickets.

See posters and flyers for details Per DTI NCR Permit No. A3 183, Series of 2005

Regular Ticket Price
Cinemas 1 to 4 - P150
Premiere Theatre - P295 (includes unlimited popcorn and beverage)

Call 633-7851, loc. 171 or 633-2227 / 633-4735 for more details.

Shangri-La Plaza

EASTWOOD CINEMAS

Eastwood City Walk 2, Eastwood City
E. Rodriguez Jr. Ave. (C-5) Quezon City

Voted Best Movie Theater
-Philippine Daily Inquirer's 2004 Yearend Reader Survey

For inquiries, call:
687-6963
GUARANTEED SEATS
MOVIES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

1 STAR WARS III: REVENGE OF THE SITH
10:20, 1:20, 4:20, 7:20, 10:20
GP

2 MADAGASCAR
10:55, 1:05, 3:15, 5:25
7:35, 10:20
GP

3 STAR WARS III: REVENGE OF THE SITH
11:05, 2:05, 5:05,
8:05, 11:05
GP

4 HOUSE OF WAX
12:30, 3:05, 5:40,
8:15, 10:50
R-13

POWER PLANT CINEMA

Rockwell Center, Makati City ☎ Tel. No: 8981440-41 DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

HOUSE OF WAX R13 1:20,3:40,6:00,8:20,10:30	MADAGASCAR GP 11:00,1:00,3:00, 5:00,7:00,9:00	MADAGASCAR GP 11:50,1:50,3:50, 5:50,7:50,9:50
STAR WARS: EPISODE III GP 12:30,3:30,6:30,9:30	UNLEASHED R13 11:45,1:55,4:05, 6:15,8:25,10:25	STAR WARS: EPISODE III GP 1:30,4:30.7:30,10:20

star group of cinemas movie guide
IN DOLBY DIGITAL SOUND

starmall EDSA-SHAW Tel. No. 726.61.50	METROPOLIS ALABANG star Tel. No. 850.42.85	starmall LAS PIÑAS Tel. No. 873.50.04
3 La Visa Loca	1 Unleashed	1 XXX 2
4 Unleashed	2 La Visa Loca	2 Rental Reservation
5 Star Wars Episode 3	3 Under Renovation	
	4 Under Renovation	
	5 Star Wars Episode 3	
	6 House of Wax	

For every purchase of 1 Movie Ticket at Starmall Edsa Gets 1 Free Yellow Swiper Game at TimeZone Starmall Edsa
DTI-NCR A3-377 Series of 2005

Buy 3 Movie Tickets And Win Jollibee Products! At Metropolis Alabang and Starmall Edsa
DTI-NCR A2-258, Series 2005
DTI-NCR A3-351, Series 2005

NCCA
PROGAY

Pink

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June 3 -12, 2005

TICKETNET

OPENING FILM

festival highlights

pinkfilmfest@yahoo.com

tel 410.4545/410.4567 pinkfilmfest.cjb.net

GREENHILLS CINEMAS
GREENHILLS SHOPPING CENTER, ORTIGAS AVENUE, GREENHILLS, SAN JUAN, METRO MANILA

THEATRE MALL GREENHILLS
a landmark reinvented!

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 1 STAR WARS : EPISODE III - GP
1:30, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00

CINEMA 2 MADAGASCAR - GP
12:15, 2:25, 4:35, 6:45, 9:00

DOLBY DIGITAL SURROUND-EX

PROMENADE GREENHILLS
...a dinetertainment for all!

NOW SHOWING

CINEMA 3 STAR WARS : EPISODE III - GP
12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00

CINEMA 4 HOUSE OF WAX - GP
11:35, 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 10:00

CINEMA 5 UNLEASHED - R13
11:30, 1:50, 4:10, 6:30, 8:50

TICKET PRICES & SCREENING TIME SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE. FOR CINEMA INQUIRIES, PLEASE CALL: 722 4496.

MUSIC MUSEUM

June 3, 2005	ANTON DIVA & CHOCOLEIT	8PM
JUNE 9, 10, 16 & 17	GARY V. @ 22	8PM

FOR INQUIRIES & RESERVATION, PLS. CALL : 721-6726 OR 721-0635

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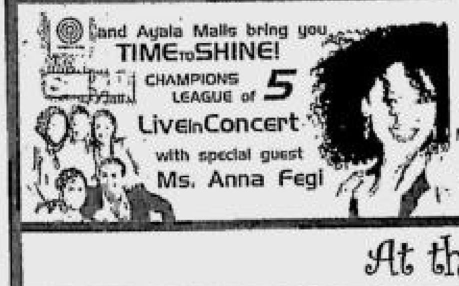
AYALA CENTER
GLORIETTA • GREENBELT

ALABANG TOWN

AYALA CENTER CEBU

AYALA MALLS
Lovemall!


and Ayala Malls bring you
TIME to SHINE!
CHAMPIONS LEAGUE of 5
Live in Concert
with special guest
Ms. Anna Fegi

AYALA CENTER	ALABANG TOWN	AYALA CENTER CEBU
May 21, 2005, 6:00pm Glorietta Park 4 Customer Service Hotline: 752 7272	May 22, 2005, 6:00pm Activity Center Customer Service Hotline: 842 2782, 772 1869	June 4, 2005, 7:00pm Activity Center Customer Service Hotline: (032) 2315342 LOC. 324

AYALA MALLS
Lovemall!

At the Activity Center

GLORIETTA	ALABANG TOWN CENTER	AYALA CENTER CEBU
Isuzu Car Exhibit May 28-31, 2005	Oreo Family Day May 29, 2005	Asian Academy of Music Recital TV Eskwela May 28,2005

AYALA GREENBELT

8th Asian Cartoon Exhibition:
"The Meaning Of Life" by Japan Foundation
May 22 - 31, 2005

GREENBELT 1 Onstage

Repertory Philippines
"SUMMER WORKSHOP SHOWCASE"
May 17, 19, 20, 21, 23, 24, 26, 27, 28
For inquiries, please call 887-0710

Ayala MUSEUM

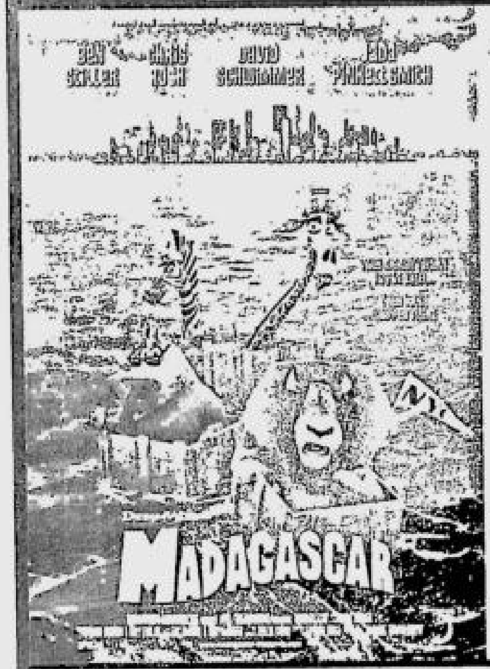
Visit the New Ayala Museum located beside Greenbelt 4 along Makati Avenue.
For inquiries, please call 757-7117.

AYALA CINEMAS

THX

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservations.

G1 GLORIETTA 1	1 MADAGASCAR	2 STAR WARS EP. 3	3 HOUSE OF WAX	4 LA VISA LOKA
G4 GLORIETTA 4	1 STAR WARS EP. 3	2 STAR WARS EP. 3	3 THX STAR WARS EP. 3 12:30, 3:30, 6:30, 9:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	
	4 LA VISA LOCA	5 HOUSE OF WAX	6 MADAGASCAR	7 UNLEASHED
GB1 GREENBELT 1	1 UNLEASHED 1:05, 3:15, 5:25, 7.35,9:45	2 STAR WARS EP. 3 12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 9:00		
GB3 GREENBELT 3	1 THX MADAGASCAR 11:30, 1:30, 3:30, 5:30, 7:30, 9:30, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	2 THX STAR WARS EP. 3 12:10, 3:00, 5:50, 8:40, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS		
	3 UNLEASHED 2:35, 4:45, 6:55,9:05, 11:15 GUARANTEED SEATS	4 HOUSE OF WAX 12:15, 2:30, 4:45, 7:00, 9:15, 11:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	5 STAR WARS EP. 3 11:10, 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30 GUARANTEED SEATS	
ATC ALABANG TOWN CENTER	1 THX STAR WARS EP. 3	2 MADAGASCAR		
	3 UNLEASHED	4 HOUSE OF WAX	5 STAR WARS EP. 3	
ACC AYALA CENTER CEBU	1 STAR WARS EP. 3	2 MADAGASCAR	3 UNLEASHED	4 LA VISA LOKA



NOW SHOWING AT

AYALA CINEMAS
ALABANG TOWN CENTER
GLORIETTA 1 & 4
GREENBELT 3
MARKET! MARKET!

For screening schedule, call 729-7777

Reserve your seats by texting SURESEATS GB3 or SURESEATS G4 to 2333 (Globe) or 211 (Smart) or log on to www.sureseats.com for web reservation

MTRCB Rating: General Audience (G)

Come & join our MADAGASCAR Family Day
on May 28 & 29
at Glorietta 4, Greenbelt 3, Alabang Town Center & Market Market cinema lobbies

Customer Service text hotline: 0917 6095900
Customer Service text hotline: Glorietta - 752 7272; from 10am to 8pm
Greenbelt - 752 4853; from 11am to 12mn
Alabang Town Center - 842 2782; from 10am to 8pm
Ayala Center Cebu - (032) 231 5342 loc 324

Movie schedules may change without prior notice. For verification call 729 7777

All-Digital Cinemas

MARKET! MARKET!
The fun is in the finds
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Free Seating Cinemas: P70.00

① Madagascar
② Kingdom of Heaven
③ House of Wax
④ La Visa Loka

Guaranteed Seats Cinemas: P90.00

⑤ Unleashed
⑥ Madagascar
⑦ Starwars Episode III

EVENTS! EVENTS!

MARKET! MARKET!

Family Entertainment Package

P500

Valid only for certain movies. Please see ticket booth for details.

4 movie passes (Guaranteed Seats Cinemas)

1 BigTime Popcorn

P100 Powercard

ROBINSONS MOVIEWORLD CINEMAS MOVIE GUIDE

MOVIEWORLD

CINEMA ACCESS
635-5555
FOR ALL BRANCHES

www.robinsonsmovieworld.com

MOVIES/SCHEDULES/PRICES ARE SUBJECT TO CHANGE WITHOUT PRIOR NOTICE

GALLERIA 632-9115/16

1 STAR WARS Episode III • THX
1:00 3:50 6:40 9:30
2 MADAGASCAR
11:10 1:20 3:30 5:40 7:50 10:00
3 STAR WARS Episode III
10:40 1:30 4:20 7:10 10:00
4 UNLEASHED
10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00
5 LA VISA LOCA
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00
6 HOUSE OF WAX
10:20 12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00
7 IN GOOD COMPANY
12:00 2:30 5:00 7:30 10:00
8 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
12:30 3:40 6:50 10:00
9 BIKINI OPEN
12:20 2:45 5:10 7:35 10:00
10 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
12:40 3:00 5:20 7:40 10:00

ERMITA 536-7809 to 12

1 STAR WARS Episode III
10:30 1:25 4:20 7:10 10:00
2 BIKINI OPEN
10:30 12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 9:50
3 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
10:30 12:25 2:20 4:15 6:10 8:05 10:00
4 HOUSE OF WAX
10:30 12:45 3:00 5:15 7:30 9:50
5 LA VISA LOCA
10:35 12:50 3:05 5:20 7:35 9:50
6 UNLEASHED
10:55 1:05 3:15 5:25 7:35 9:50
7 MADAGASCAR
10:30 12:25 2:20 4:15 6:10 8:05 10:00

METRO EAST 682-8193 • 682-8199

1 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
11:40 2:40 5:40 9:00
3 MADAGASCAR
10:50 12:50 2:50 4:50 6:50 9:00
4 BIKINI OPEN
11:10 1:40 4:10 6:40 9:10
5 UNLEASHED
12:30 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:30
6 HOUSE OF WAX
11:20 1:40 4:00 6:20 8:30 10:30
7 STAR WARS Episode III
11:00 1:45 4:30 7:15 10:00
8 LA VISA LOCA
12:30 3:00 5:30 8:00 10:30

NOVALICHES 935-3229/31

1 STAR WARS Episode III
11:20 2:20 5:20 8:25
2 KINGDOM OF HEAVEN
11:20 2:20 5:20 8:25
3 LA VISA LOCA
10:20 12:50 3:20 5:50 8:25
4 HOUSE OF WAX
10:15 12:40 3:10 5:45 8:25
5 STAR WARS Episode III
1:50 4:50 7:50
6 RESERVE
7 UNLEASHED
11:00 1:20 3:40 6:00 8:25
8 RESERVE

PIONEER 687-5378

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 MADAGASCAR
3 LA VISA LOCA
4 UNLEASHED

CITISQUARE MALABON 288-2575

1 LA VISA LOCA
2 UNLEASHED
3 STAR WARS Episode III
4 BOSO

CAINTA 240-4661

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 LA VISA LOCA
3 HOUSE OF WAX
4 MADAGASCAR

MADAGASCAR

In theaters MAY 27

Meet the PENGUINS!

have your pictures taken with the cute and cuddly PENGUINS of MADAGASCAR

MAY 19	Robinsons Movieworld ERMITA
MAY 22	Robinsons Movieworld GALLERIA
MAY 31	Robinsons Movieworld GALLERIA
JUNE 02	Robinsons Movieworld ERMITA
JUNE 03	Robinsons Movieworld GALLERIA
JUNE 05	Robinsons Movieworld GALLERIA - 11:00 AM

See them LIVE at 5:00 PM

STA. ROSA (049) 837-0907

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 RING OF THE NIBELUNGS
3 LA VISA LOCA
4 MADAGASCAR
5 BIKINI OPEN

LIPA (043) 757-3664 (043) 312-5870

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 ONG BAK
3 IN GOOD COMPANY
4 LA VISA LOCA
5 THE WEDDING DATE

DASMARIÑAS (046) 852-2125 (046) 416-4332

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 IN GOOD COMPANY
3 MADAGASCAR
4 BOSO
5 LA VISA LOCA

ANGELES (045) 892-2348

1 STAR WARS Episode III
2 MADAGASCAR
3 LA VISA LOCA
4 IN GOOD COMPANY

IMUS (046) 875-3838 (046) 471-8188

1 LA VISA LOCA
2 STAR WARS Episode III
3 BIKINI OPEN
4 MADAGASCAR
5 UNLEASHED
6 HOUSE OF WAX

STARMILLS (045) 875-1927 (045) 961 5270

1 HEAD IN THE CLOUDS
2 BIKINI OPEN
3 THE AMITYVILLE HORROR
4 LA VISA LOCA
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SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2005
E-mail: pr_sports@inquirer.com.ph
Editor Teddyvic S. Melendres

Gonzales cops title

KATRINA Gonzales (left) is congratulated by Leana Farrales after winning the National Tournament of Club Champions. ROMY HOMILLADA

By Jong Arcano

GENERAL Trias, Cavite—Katrina Gonzales took the first four holes en route to an abbreviated 7&5 victory over Leana Farrales for the ladies' plum even as buddies Raymund Sangil and Kevin Tayao forged a duel for the men's crown yesterday in the National Tournament of Club Champions at the Eagle Ridge Golf and Country Club course here.

The 18-year-old Gonzales, the No. 3 seed carrying the banner of Riviera, started par-par-birdie-birdie to take the fight out of the fifth-seeded Wack Wack bet Farrales in their lopsided final at the Dye course.

Farrales, who never got the chance to play the course due to her heavy workload, won only one of the 13 holes they played.

"This (title) is something to cherish, it's nice to know that I'm the first to win it," said Gonzales, an incoming sophomore at Ateneo who won a trip to the world ladies match play this June in New Jersey, USA, where Jennifer Rosales and Dorothy Delasin will see action.

Sangil tries to make it a sweep for Riviera when the former national training pool member plays Sta. Elena representative Tayao for the other major prize of the tourney presented by INQUIRER Golf and Hong Kong and Shanghai Banking Corp. in coordination with the Golf Distributors Association of the Philippines.

The men's final is set for 18 holes at the Faldo course starting at 7:30 a.m.

Sangil, sales manager of Mizuno's golf division, beat Mt. Malarayat's Abe Avena, 4&3, while Tayao broke out of a tight match with Marty Ilagan of Manila Southwoods with a huge par save on the 15th and a birdie on the 16th for a 2&1 victory.

Sangil allowed Avena to go 1 up on the second hole before putting on a stunning show of shotmaking touched off by a birdie on the third and an eagle on the fourth.

Shifting to high gear, Sangil then claimed five of the next eight holes to put the match away with a six-hole lead.

RP Futsal Team wins

THE PHILIPPINE Futsal team, which recently scored a stunning 5-4 victory over Vietnam, is in the thick of the action in the ongoing AFC (Asian Football Confederation) championship in Vietnam.

Internationalist Freddie Gonzales, US college players Aly Borromeo and Anton del Rosario, Selu Lozano, Dave Fegidero and Army bets Roel, Gener and Jeffrey Lobaton are again leading the Filipinos' bid in Vietnam.

The Filipinos, sponsored by Italian-Thai Development Co. Ltd., lost 3-6 to Malaysia, 0-7 to Thailand, 4-6 to Brunei and 1-7 to Indonesia in their Bangkok outing. The team's trip to Vietnam is supported by Philippine Airlines, Rep. Monico Puentavella, sportsmen Jack Rodriguez, Santi Elizalde, Linggoy Araneta, Bobong Velez, Tomas Lozano and Dito Borromeo.

ALY Borromeo dribbles past a Thai defender.

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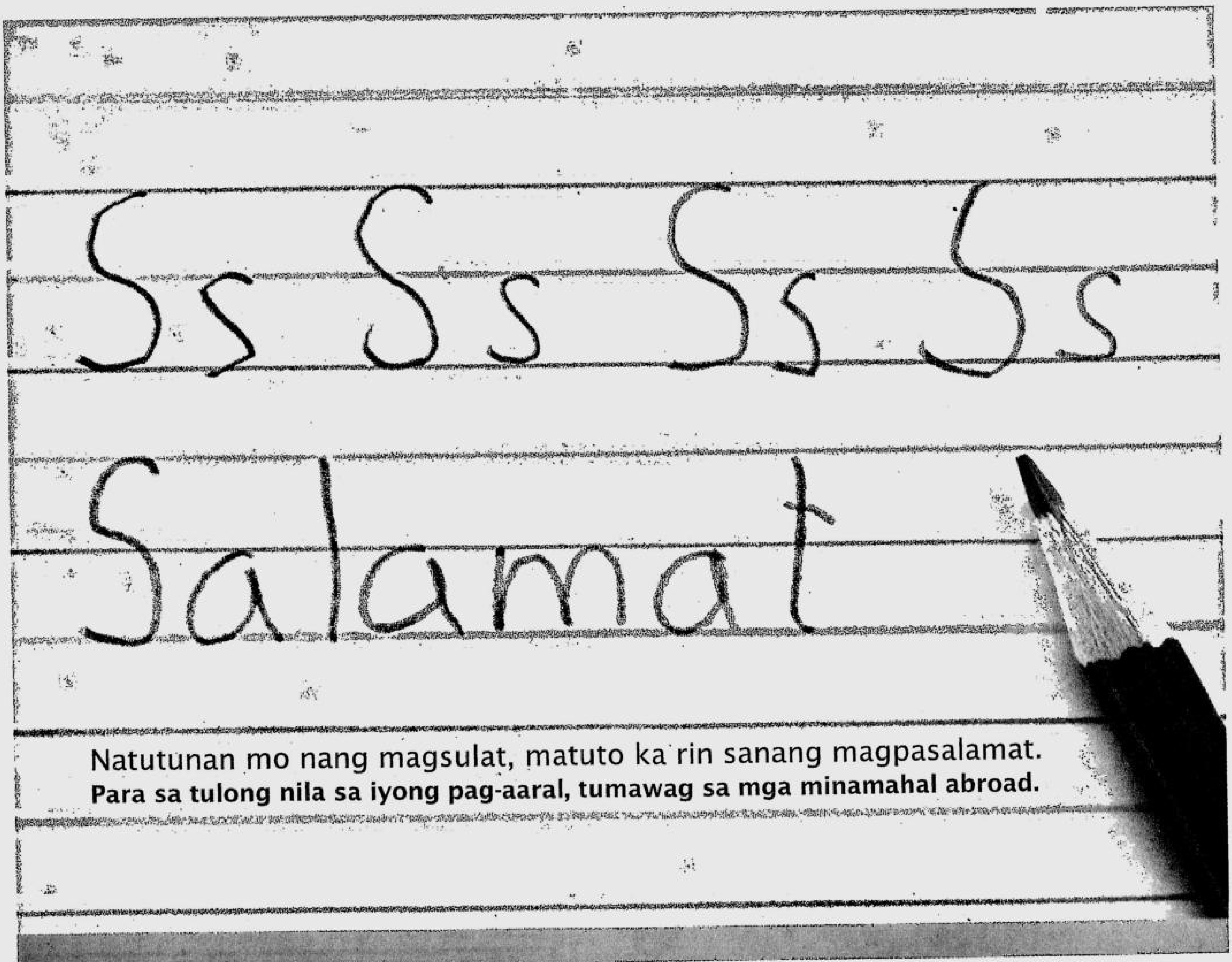

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Editor Emmie G. Velarde

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Can RP movies be No. 1 in Asia again?

By Ophellia San Juan
Contributor

ANALYSIS

THE WAVE of indie films currently sweeping the globe may offer hope for Filipino moviemakers to once more wield the supremacy in Asia that we enjoyed in the 1950s and '60s.

Films like "Badjao" and "Anak-Dalita" were first prize winners in two consecutive Asian film festivals at the time, and Filipino directors like Lamberto V. Avellana (who megged both LVN classics) were invited by Hong Kong to train Chinese filmmakers.

With the directors went top Filipino cinematographers, too.

If that was the prime of Filipino movie making, that was the prime, too, of our actors and actresses. Charito Solis, gracing one of the region's film festivals, caught the eye of, and was wooed by, Hollywood's Warren Beatty.

She nearly went to the United States, but that's another story. She opted to remain Doña Sisang's and Philippine filmdom's eternal "Niña Bonita."

Theories

Whatever happened to Filipino moviemaking afterwards is a mixed mash of theories. A fatal flaw was detected years later, when it was too late to alter old habits and reverse the tide of mediocrity.

While Hollywood and the rest of the world were looking for worthwhile stories and good scriptwriters, the Philippines was being lulled into dependence on the star system and sycophantic, but incapable, movie makers. A director would recommend to a producer a screen writer who would say yes to all the director's ideas, and tailor his scripts to the latter's desires instead of the other way around, which is: to give the director a good filmic foundation by way of a competent story, and tailor the script to the emerging consensus after discussions with the director and the producer.

It was commonplace to have sequences and dialogues written on the back of a cigarette pack and filmed forthwith.

In less than two decades, Hong Kong emerged as a strong-muscled movie maker in Asia. Run Run Shaw, who contracted Bert

CAN RP/ A2-2

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That's life!

YESTERDAY

Pummeled by tragedy, Berting Labra remains lighthearted

By Bayani San Diego Jr.
Photos by Raffy Lerma
ADDITIONAL PHOTOS COURTESY OF BERTING LABRA

THE LATE Action King Fernando Poe Jr. posed a serious question to Berting Labra: "I've done all sorts of roles—from priest to soldier. What else can I do?"

"I have a great idea," Labra quipped, swift on the draw. "A cowboy with fangs."

Dracula goes Western!

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"Fernando Poe Sr. was looking for a kid who could sing," Labra recalls. "During the Japanese Occupation, I performed in stage shows mounted by Paquito Bolero. We toured the provinces."

Labra was acknowledged as the local version of Hollywood's Bobby Breen, "a child singer whose voice was very high."

The star of several hits—"Palaboy ng Tadhana," "Kanto Boy," "Alimudin," "Sagur"—he was hailed as the "Wonder Boy" of post-war Pinoy Cinema. That was long before Niño Muhlach entered frame in the 1970s.

"I usually played the young Fernando Poe Sr.," Labra recalls. "He's a man of few words. *At 'di mahilig sa barkada.*"

Ten-year-old Labra was FPS' only *barkada*, as it were. "He would take me to Ongpin and we'd eat Chinese food on Antigua and Jacinto."

In the car, they'd sing all the way to Chinatown. "He was a baritone; we'd sing 'Indian Love Call.'"

At age 14, he headlined "He Promised to Return" with US actor Robert Neil and local beauty Erlinda Cortez.

When he hit the awkward stage dreaded by all child actors, Labra simply bowed out of the scene.

"I lost my singing voice," he explains. "So I retired, got married, and moved to Olongapo."

But the kid couldn't stay away from the movies for long—which was also true the other way around.

"Larry Santiago called me up," he recounts. Larry's brother Pablo was directing a youth flick ... would Labra be interested in a comeback?

That movie turned out to be "Lo' Waist Gang" and Labra shared the screen with his old boss' (who was deceased by then) son, Fernando Poe Jr., along with Zaldy Zshornack, Herminio Bautista, Boy Francisco, Boy Sta. Romana, Bobby Gonzalez, Tony Cruz, and Mario Antonio.

"Lo' Waist" spawned a string of sequels from 1956 to 1960, about 14 movies, Labra estimates. The "Lo' Waist" chapter of his movie life is the most memorable, says Labra. "We shot in Hong Kong and Singapore."

Boys being boys, they got into all sorts of high jinks abroad.

"We would change the price tags in department stores. Once, Boy Sta. Romana made a run for it, grabbing a giant Buddha," Labra says, laughing at their recklessness.

IN "HE PROMISED to Return," age 14

WITH FPS in "Palaboy ng Tadhana," age 10

But it was definitely not all fun and games.

Labra was at the top of his profession when he experienced life's toughest test.

In the '60s, he top-billed several hit movies, either solo or with fellow "Death March" child star Chiquito—"Bulilit Al Capone," "Big Time Berto," "Sa 'Yo o Sa Akin" and his favorite, "Ano Ba Choy?"

The last one earned him a Famas Best Actor nomination in 1962. "Joseph Estrada beat me, by just two points, with his role in 'Markang Rehas'."

He counted the country's superstars at the time among his closest friends. Heck, he was a superstar himself. But neither fame nor his connections shielded him from a controversial murder case that landed him and friend Eddie Fernandez in jail in 1969.

"We were in death row," he says. "I told Eddie: '*Kosa*, I'd be happy if our death would be commuted to life sentence."

His stint in Muntinlupa made him stronger and taught him patience, he acknowledges.

"I advised Robin Padilla [when *he* was jailed later on], to stay away from gangs in prison," Labra says. "To stay away from trouble. Every time, my fellow inmates provoked me, I'd tell them: 'Pity my nine children!' Inside, I learned to sleep with one eye open, with a sharp object under my pillow! Had I been weak, I would've ended up in an insane asylum."

Labra and Fernandez spent 13 years in jail, only to be exonerated by the Supreme Court in 1982.

"They can never bring back those 13 years," he insists. "That case ruined my life. My wife and I got separated. I didn't see my children grow up . . ."

He holds no bitterness in his heart, though. "I've accepted it as my fate. I just wish the government respected actors more. I've kept silent for so long. Show biz is where I grew up. It hurts me when my fellow actors are treated like criminals because of unpaid taxes."

He himself did not get even an apology from the government.

The comic has certainly been pummeled by tragedies all his life.

Even as a child, he wasn't spared from heartbreak. The last time he saw his father, Francisco Labra, former Bantamweight and Featherweight Champion of the Orient, he (Francisco) was a prisoner, tortured by the Japanese.

"I was only 6 then," Labra says. "My father was a guerrilla. I saw with my own eyes how he suffered. His hands were tied with barbed wire."

In spite of all that drama, Labra, now 72 and enjoying a career revival, albeit on a more even level, maintains a healthy dose of humor and remains stubbornly optimistic.

"In prison, I felt God's presence in my life and saw things clearly," he says with a bittersweet smile. "(Now) I don't take life too seriously. As they say, 'If you're gonna go, you're gonna go.'"

WITH FPJ in Cebu during last year's campaign

IN MUNTINLUPA, 1981

Sergio Mora tops 'Contender' b

THE WELL-REGARDED boxing challenge, "The Contender," has concluded its first season, with **Sergio Mora** beating **Peter Manfredo Jr.** in the finals. The AXN show hosted by **Sylvester Stallone** staged its championship bout last May 25 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

Mora and Manfredo survived a grueling series of elimination rounds that sequentially reduced the starting field of 16 young, professional boxers, until only four (**Mora, Manfredo, Alfonso Gomez** and **Jesse Brinkley**) were left in contention.

The fighters agreed that the semis would begin with a rematch between Manfredo and Gomez, followed by a Mora and Brinkley showdown, with the victors of each fight (Mora and Manfredo) going head-to-head against each other for the championship title bout, and the boxing challenge's $1 million jackpot.

The series' viewers were glued to the TV screen not only because the bouts were compelling, but also because the show delved into the contenders' personal motivations.

The driving force behind the series was the pursuit of the American dream, and the struggle and heartbreak some of the young boxers had to undergo in their determined efforts to attain victory, and thus transform the lives of their generally disadvantaged loved ones.

"The Contender" ended on a high note, so some viewers may be expecting to watch a second edition of the show. Unfortunately, Stallone and cohost and boxing mentor **Sugar Ray Leonard** aren't so sure.

VIEWFINDER

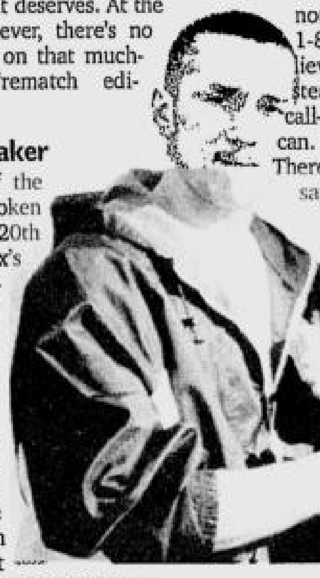
Nestor U. Torre

Interviewed on TV recently, Stallone revealed that the show, while garnering raves from reviewers, wasn't doing well in the ratings. He attributed this relatively poor showing to the show's being moved from one time slot to another, thus making it difficult for it to develop a loyal viewership.

We trust that a way can be found to give the series another chance to recoup its losses, and garner the big ratings numbers it deserves. At the moment, however, there's no definite word on that much-anticipated "rematch edition."

Record-breaker

"REVENGE of the Sith" has broken the record for 20th Century Fox's biggest opening day in the Philippines, which used to be held by "The Day After Tomorrow" (P47.2 million). "Revenge" made P49.6 million when it opened last May 19.



SERGIO Mora

On its opening week
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P61.3 million.

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From the mouth of a Kid Su

By Marinel R. Cruz

EVERY single mom's wish is to raise her child well, according to Marie Louise Bumatay, mother of Sam, "StarStruck" Ultimate Kid Survivor.

The talented 6-year-old, who reminded us of Aiza Seguerra back when she (Aiza) was just starting on "Eat Bulaga," has not stopped working since she bagged the grand prize on GMA 7's talent program last year.

Sam had been featured in a hotdog commercial and appeared as the character Lawiswis in the recently concluded "Mulawin," also on GMA 7. She is currently seen on the weekly kiddie show "Bubble Gang Jr." and now, on "Love to Love," which premieres today on her home network.

Sam joined the Little Miss Philippines contest on "Eat Bulaga" when she was 4. She made to the grand finals and won a special award. The following year, she auditioned for "StarStruck."

"I made sure she's a regular student enrolled in a regular school," Marie Louise told INQUIRER Entertainment last week. Sam is an incoming Grade 1 student at the Starland Kiddie School in Anonas, Quezon City.

TAKE FIVE

Do you ever feel tired of working as an *artista*?

Gusto po ginagawa ko. Pero important din po sa akin ang school. *'Yung* school *po paglaki ko ipagsasabay ko sa pag-aartista.*

Okay lang sa akin mapuyat. Sa kotse po ako natutulog.

Masaya po ang role *ko sa* "Love to Love," *taong gubat. Nilalagyan po kami ng maitim na* make-up.

Is it okay with you to be called *taong gubat*?

Tawag lang naman 'yun e.

WHAT DOES A TAONG GUBAT EAT?

Fruits. Mango *po ang* favorite *ko. Pati po* bananas.

Are you afraid of the dentist?

Hindi po. Nung binunutan ako, pinatulog ng dentist *'yung ngipin ko, tapos in-*injection *ako, tapos binunot.* Remembrance *ko daw yung maliit na ngipin.*

No gifts from the tooth fairy?

Dollars! *Mayroon po kaming dalawang* dollars.

Do you have a crush?

Wala po. (Turns to mom) Mama, *'di ba wala akong* crush?

Which do you like better, drama or comedy?

SAM Bumatay

Drama po. Kasi po palagi akong pinapa
Mommy. *Hindi,* joke *lang po 'yun. Kas*
madaming matututunan sa drama. Para po pa
ko, marunong na ako mag-drama.

Para po umiyak ako, nag-iisip ako
*nakakalungkot. Nagko-*concentrate *po ako, pu*
it ko po mata ko. Si Mommy po ang nagtutu
akin.

Does mommy always make you cr

Hindi po. Kinukwentuhan n'ya po
Ang madalas po namin gawin ni Mo
matulog at magbasa ng encycloped
kumain ng Chickenjoy.

Chickenjoy? *'Di ba* hotdog *ang* commercial
Wala na pong binibigay e.

Do you have brothers and sisters?

Wala po. Kasi po 'di ba kapag mayroon. n
gawan kayo ng pagkain sa loob ng tiyan ng mo
'nyo? Mabuti nga po isa lang ako kasi solo ko p
pagkain.

What do you want to be when you grow up?

Teacher po. *'Yung mga nasa lansangan po p*
ko pag-aralin kahit wala pong bayad.

What does your Mama always tell you?

Do my best *daw po. 'Tsaka wag daw po p*
Mag-stay lang daw po kung saan po ako nak
'Wag daw malikot.

What would you like to give her someday?

Bahay na lang po, saka kotse.

Can RP movies be No. 1 in Asia again?

From page A2-1

Avellana and Filipino cameramen to train his (Shaw's) boys in Hong Kong, had his Golden Harvest company beefed up by the biceps of Bruce Lee, and went on to co-produce with Hollywood.

Korea quietly stole the scene with its fine, filigreed dramas and love stories, and Japan tenaciously made its presence felt in a unique way.

Starting with the sexy appeal of its wet women pearl divers, Japan regaled the world with technology and gigantic monsters like Godzilla. The Toho and Toei companies established distribution offices around the world, including the Philippines.

It is not known whether the Japanese government helped subsidize these worldwide distribution efforts, but it is definite that their exports received all government aid and facilitation, while the fledgling Philippine film sales to Filipino communities abroad were meeting bureaucratic red tape and government near-apathy.

The complaint of Filipino filmmakers against excessive taxes has been aired for decades on end. The case of the Canadian Film Board's nurturing of its country's worthwhile products has be
source of envy for local filmmakers then a

Hobbled by these and other factors (like the de
in their prime of directors Ishmael Bernal and
Brocka), the Philippine film industry has only
ents and a number of dedicated individuals to
for its continued flourishing and even inroads in
ternational recognition. The awards receive
foreign film festivals and invitations to presti
exhibitions are a tribute to the artistry of sev
rectors and the push being exerted by dedi
ministrators of filmic bodies.

The indies' example may be an answ
common complaint of lack of capital, fo
showing excellence despite lack of funds.

The artistic will has to come from the p
ers of the craft, for Filipinos througho
have shown what determination can do in the
of seemingly insurmountable odds. It is no
tion of whether Filipino films can once mor
supremacy in Asia. It is a question of whethe
filmmakers will do so—theirs is the respons
theirs will be the glory.

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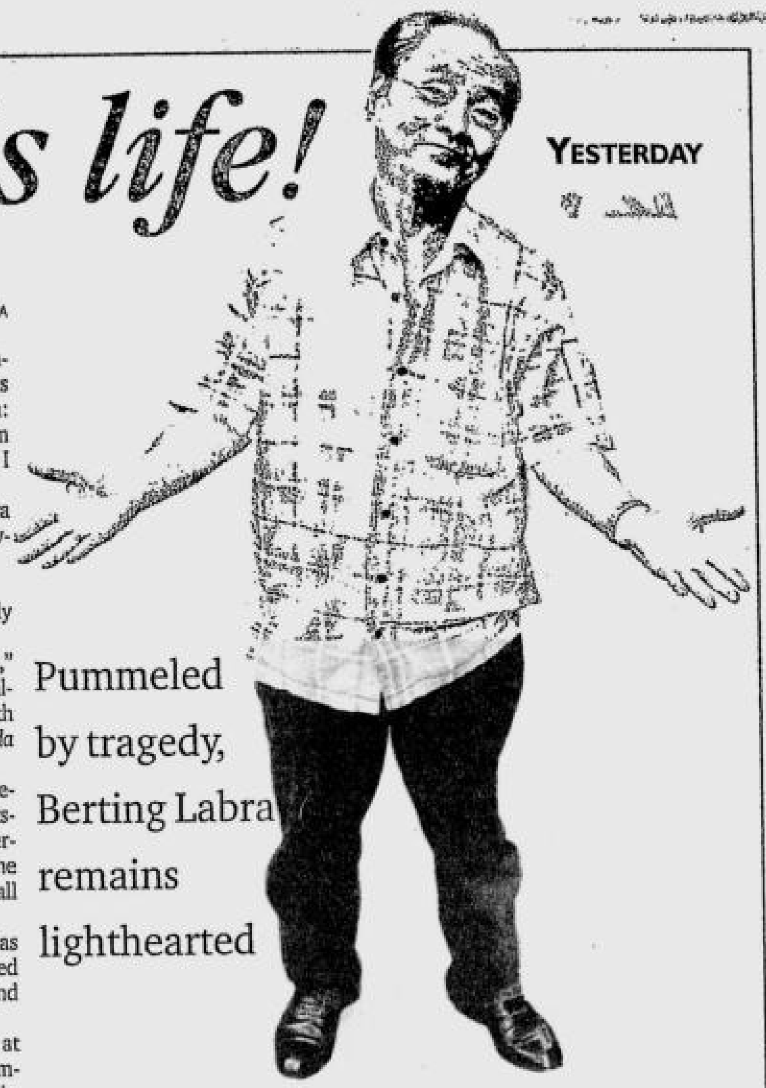

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"Fernando Poe Sr. was looking for a kid who could sing," Labra recalls. "During the Japanese Occupation, I performed in stage shows mounted by Paquito Bolero. We toured the provinces."

Labra was acknowledged as the local version of Hollywood's Bobby Breen, "a child singer whose voice was very high."

The star of several hits—"Palaboy ng Tadhana," "Kanto Boy," "Alimudin," "Sagur"—he was hailed as the "Wonder Boy" of post-war Pinoy Cinema. That was long before Niño Muhlach entered frame in the 1970s.

"I usually played the young Fernando Poe Sr.," Labra recalls. "He's a man of few words. *At 'di mahilig sa barkada.*"

Ten-year-old Labra was FPS' only *barkada*, as it were. "He would take me to Ongpin and we'd eat Chinese food on Antigua and Jacinto."

In the car, they'd sing all the way to Chinatown. "He was a baritone; we'd sing 'Indian Love Call.'"

At age 14, he headlined "He Promised to Return" with US actor Robert Neil and local beauty Erlinda Cortez.

When he hit the awkward stage dreaded by all child actors, Labra simply bowed out of the scene.

"I lost my singing voice," he explains. "So I retired, got married, and moved to Olongapo."

But the kid couldn't stay away from the movies for long—which was also true the other way around.

"Larry Santiago called me up," he recounts. Larry's brother Pablo was directing a youth flick ... would Labra be interested in a comeback?

That movie turned out to be "Lo' Waist Gang" and Labra shared the screen with his old boss' (who was deceased by then) son, Fernando Poe Jr., along with Zaldy Zshornack, Herminio Bautista, Boy Francisco, Boy Sta. Romana, Bobby Gonzalez, Tony Cruz, and Mario Antonio.

"Lo' Waist" spawned a string of sequels from 1956 to 1960, about 14 movies, Labra estimates. The "Lo' Waist" chapter of his movie life is the most memorable, says Labra. "We shot in Hong Kong and Singapore."

Boys being boys, they got into all sorts of high jinks abroad.

"We would change the price tags in department stores. Once, Boy Sta. Romana made a run for it, grabbing a giant Buddha," Labra says, laughing at their recklessness.

IN "HE PROMISED to Return," age 14

WITH FPS in "Palaboy ng Tadhana," age 10

But it was definitely not all fun and games.

Labra was at the top of his profession when he experienced life's toughest test.

In the '60s, he top-billed several hit movies, either solo or with fellow "Death March" child star Chiquito—"Bulilit Al Capone," "Big Time Berto," "Sa 'Yo o Sa Akin" and his favorite, "Ano Ba Choy?"

The last one earned him a Famas Best Actor nomination in 1962. "Joseph Estrada beat me, by just two points, with his role in 'Markang Rehas'."

He counted the country's superstars at the time among his closest friends. Heck, he was a superstar himself. But neither fame nor his connections shielded him from a controversial murder case that landed him and friend Eddie Fernandez in jail in 1969.

"We were in death row," he says. "I told Eddie: '*Kosa*, I'd be happy if our death would be commuted to life sentence."

His stint in Muntinlupa made him stronger and taught him patience, he acknowledges.

"I advised Robin Padilla [when *he* was jailed later on], to stay away from gangs in prison," Labra says. "To stay away from trouble. Every time, my fellow inmates provoked me, I'd tell them: 'Pity my nine children!' Inside, I learned to sleep with one eye open, with a sharp object under my pillow! Had I been weak, I would've ended up in an insane asylum."

Labra and Fernandez spent 13 years in jail, only to be exonerated by the Supreme Court in 1982.

"They can never bring back those 13 years," he insists. "That case ruined my life. My wife and I got separated. I didn't see my children grow up . . ."

He holds no bitterness in his heart, though. "I've accepted it as my fate. I just wish the government respected actors more. I've kept silent for so long. Show biz is where I grew up. It hurts me when my fellow actors are treated like criminals because of unpaid taxes."

He himself did not get even an apology from the government.

The comic has certainly been pummeled by tragedies all his life.

Even as a child, he wasn't spared from heartbreak. The last time he saw his father, Francisco Labra, former Bantamweight and Featherweight Champion of the Orient, he (Francisco) was a prisoner, tortured by the Japanese.

"I was only 6 then," Labra says. "My father was a guerrilla. I saw with my own eyes how he suffered. His hands were tied with barbed wire."

In spite of all that drama, Labra, now 72 and enjoying a career revival, albeit on a more even level, maintains a healthy dose of humor and remains stubbornly optimistic.

"In prison, I felt God's presence in my life and saw things clearly," he says with a bittersweet smile. "(Now) I don't take life too seriously. As they say, 'If you're gonna go, you're gonna go.'"

WITH FPJ in Cebu during last year's campaign

IN MUNTINLUPA, 1981

Sergio Mora tops 'Contender' b

VIEWFINDER
Nestor U. Torre

THE WELL-REGARDED boxing challenge, "The Contender," has concluded its first season, with **Sergio Mora** beating **Peter Manfredo Jr.** in the finals. The AXN show hosted by **Sylvester Stallone** staged its championship bout last May 25 at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas.

Mora and Manfredo survived a grueling series of elimination rounds that sequentially reduced the starting field of 16 young, professional boxers, until only four (**Mora, Manfredo, Alfonso Gomez** and **Jesse Brinkley**) were left in contention.

The fighters agreed that the semis would begin with a rematch between Manfredo and Gomez, followed by a Mora and Brinkley showdown, with the victors of each fight (Mora and Manfredo) going head-to-head against each other for the championship title bout, and the boxing challenge's $1 million jackpot.

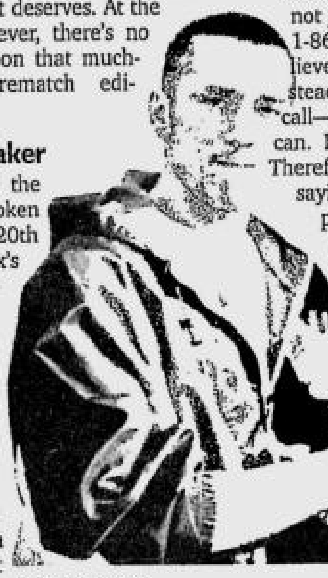
The series' viewers were glued to the TV screen not only because the bouts were compelling, but also because the show delved into the contenders' personal motivations.

The driving force behind the series was the pursuit of the American dream, and the struggle and heartbreak some of the young boxers had to undergo in their determined efforts to attain victory, and thus transform the lives of their generally disadvantaged loved ones.

"The Contender" ended on a high note, so some viewers may be expecting to watch a second edition of the show. Unfortunately, Stallone and co-host and boxing mentor **Sugar Ray Leonard** aren't so sure.

Interviewed on TV recently, Stallone revealed that the show, while garnering raves from reviewers, wasn't doing well in the ratings. He attributed this relatively poor showing to the show's being moved from one time slot to another, thus making it difficult for it to develop a loyal viewership.

We trust that a way can be found to give the series another chance to recoup its losses, and garner the big ratings numbers it deserves. At the moment, however, there's no definite word on that much-anticipated "rematch edition."


SERGIO Mora

Record-breaker

"REVENGE of the Sith" has broken the record for 20th Century Fox's biggest opening day in the Philippines, which used to be held by "The Day After Tomorrow" (P47.2 million). "Revenge" made P49.6 million when it opened last May 19.

On its opening week
than 200 screens, "Rev
P61.3 million.

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From the mouth of a Kid Su

By Marinel R. Cruz

EVERY single mom's wish is to raise her child well, according to Marie Louise Bumatay, mother of Sam, "StarStruck" Ultimate Kid Survivor.

The talented 6-year-old, who reminded us of Aiza Seguerra back when she (Aiza) was just starting on "Eat Bulaga," has not stopped working since she bagged the grand prize on GMA 7's talent program last year.

Sam had been featured in a hotdog commercial and appeared as the character Lawiswis in the recently concluded "Mulawin," also on GMA 7. She is currently seen on the weekly kiddie show "Bubble Gang Jr." and now, on "Love to Love," which premieres today on her home network.

Sam joined the Little Miss Philippines contest on "Eat Bulaga" when she was 4. She made to the grand finals and won a special award. The following year, she auditioned for "StarStruck."

"I made sure she's a regular student enrolled in a regular school," Marie Louise told INQUIRER Entertainment last week. Sam is an incoming Grade 1 student at the Starland Kiddie School in Anonas, Quezon City.

SAM Bumatay

TAKE FIVE

Do you ever feel tired of working as an *artista*?
Gusto po ginagawa ko. Pero important din po sa akin ang school. *'Yung* school *po paglaki ko ipagsasabay ko sa pag-aartista.*

Okay lang sa akin mapuyat. Sa kotse po ako natutulog.

Masaya po ang role *ko sa* "Love to Love," *taong gubat. Nilalagyan po kami ng maitim na* make-up.

Is it okay with you to be called *taong gubat*?
Tawag lang naman 'yun e.

WHAT DOES A TAONG GUBAT EAT?
Fruits. Mango *po ang* favorite *ko. Pati po* bananas.

Are you afraid of the dentist?
Hindi po. Nung binunutan ako, pinatulog ng dentist *'yung ngipin ko, tapos in-*injection *ako, tapos binunot.* Remembrance *ko daw yung maliit na ngipin.*

No gifts from the tooth fairy?
Dollars! *Mayroon po kaming dalawang* dollars.

Do you have a crush?
Wala po. (Turns to mom) Mama, *'di ba wala akong* crush?

Which do you like better, drama or comedy?
Drama po. Kasi po palagi akong pinapaiy
Mommy. *Hindi,* joke *lang po 'yun. Kas*
madaming matututunan sa drama. Para po pa
ko, marunong na ako mag-drama.

Para po umiyak ako, nag-iisip ako
*nakakalungkot. Nagko-*concentrate *po ako, pi*
it ko po mata ko. Si Mommy *po ang nagturu*
akin.

Does mommy always make you cr
Hindi po. Kinukwentuhan n'ya po
Ang madalas po namin gawin ni Mo
matulog at magbasa ng encycloped
kumain ng Chickenjoy.

Chickenjoy? *'Di ba* hotdog *ang* commercia
Wala na pong binibigay e.

Do you have brothers and sisters?
Wala po. Kasi po 'di ba kapag mayroon. n
gawan kayo ng pagkain sa loob ng tiyan ng mo
'nyo? Mabuti nga po isa lang ako kasi solo ko p
pagkain.

What do you want to be when you grow up?
Teacher po. *'Yung mga nasa lansangan po p*
ko pag-aralin kahit wala pong bayad.

What does your Mama always tell you?
Do my best *daw po. 'Tsaka wag daw po pas*
Mag-stay *lang daw po kung saan po ako nak*
'Wag daw malikot.

What would you like to give her someday?
Bahay na lang po, saka kotse.

Can RP movies be No. 1 in Asia again?

From page A2-1

Avellana and Filipino cameramen to train his (Shaw's) boys in Hong Kong, had his Golden Harvest company beefed up by the biceps of Bruce Lee, and went on to co-produce with Hollywood.

Korea quietly stole the scene with its fine, filigreed dramas and love stories, and Japan tenaciously made its presence felt in a unique way.

Starting with the sexy appeal of its wet women pearl divers, Japan regaled the world with technology and gigantic monsters like Godzilla. The Toho and Toei companies established distribution offices around the world, including the Philippines.

It is not known whether the Japanese government helped subsidize these worldwide distribution efforts, but it is definite that their exports received all government aid and facilitation, while the fledgling Philippine film sales to Filipino communities abroad were meeting bureaucratic red tape and government near-apathy.

The complaint of Filipino filmmakers against excessive taxes has been aired for decades on end. The case of the Canadian Film Board's nurturing of its country's worthwhile products has be
source of envy for local filmmakers then a no

Hobbled by these and other factors (like the de
in their prime of directors Ishmael Bernal and
Brocka), the Philippine film industry has only it
ents and a number of dedicated individuals to t
for its continued flourishing and even inroads in
ternational recognition. The awards received
foreign film festivals and invitations to prestigiou
exhibitions are a tribute to the artistry of several d
rectors and the push being exerted by dedicate
ministrators of filmic bodies.

The indies' example may be an answer to
common complaint of lack of capital, for the
showing excellence despite lack of funds

The artistic will has to come from the practi
ers of the craft, for Filipinos throughout hi
have shown what determination can do in the
of seemingly insurmountable odds. It is not a
tion of whether Filipino films can once more
supremacy in Asia. It is a question of whethe
filmmakers will do so—theirs is the responsi
theirs will be the glory.

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produce hot, new beauty products; "The Immortals," on the "everlasting life" movement; and the Methuselah Mouse Prize, a competition to breed the world's oldest mouse.

"Robodoc," on the Detroit Medical Center, which is pioneering in the world's first global mobile robot. A doctor in Portugal will be performing a new surgical procedure that uses the stem cells from a patient's nose and transplants them into an injured section of the spinal cord. And "Wooly Business," on La Prarie, the Swiss cosmetics company and the high-end beauty products it makes from sheep fetuses.

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'Design 360'

AT 1:30 p.m. today and 2:30 p.m. tomorrow, CNN's "Design 360" focuses on Italian design, with features on the skyline of Milan, Dolce and Gabbana, the Ferragamo family, and Missoni family, and Gorini and Farina's restaurant and kitchen collection.

Profiles of Nature: Ambush

TOMORROW at 10 p.m., Animal Planet explores the vast arsenal of weapons animals use to conquer their prey in "Profiles of Nature: Ambush." Ambush techniques used include the spot and stalk method, the sit and wait technique, and camouflage.

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SEXY couple Pitt and Jolie

Absolutely not!

LOS ANGELES—In a new interview, actress Angelina Jolie said she "thinks the world" of Brad Pitt but has not slept with him.

"Absolutely not," the star of the upcoming flick "Mr & Mrs. Smith" told Marie Claire magazine when asked if she had been intimate with Pitt, her leading man.

"To be intimate with a married man, when my own father (actor Jon Voight) cheated on my mother, is not something I could not forgive," Jolie said in the issue that hits newsstands June 7.

Pitt has not divorced his wife, actress Jennifer Aniston; they separated in January.

For months, speculation has swirled around the world that Pitt, 41, and Jolie, 30, were romancing since last year.

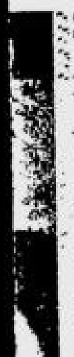
Maintenance men

In the interview, Jolie said her 4-year-old adopted son Maddox may have the final word on whom she may become involved with next.

Jolie did say, however, that she has a string of "maintenance men" with whom she has "intimate friendships." She has been divorced twice.

Reuters

urvivor



Sam, 6, has not stopped working since she won GMA 7's Starstruck

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PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
TV GUIDE
Sunday, May 29, 2005

WOWmalingMaLi!
9PM SABADO SABAGO!
ABC
ClickTheCity.com

Channel	2:30PM	3:00PM	3:30PM	4:00PM	4:30PM	5:00PM	5:30PM	6:00PM	6:30PM	7:00PM	7:30PM	8:00PM	8:30PM	9:00PM	9:30PM	10:00PM	10:30PM	11:00PM	11:30PM
ABS-CBN 2	A.S.A.P Fanatics		SCQ Reload		The Buzz				Goin' Bulilit		Rated K		TV Patrol World	Search For A Star In A Million		Sunday Family Cinema			
ABC 5		Ringside		PBA										ABCinema					
GMA 7	Gigsters	Love To Love			S-Files				Naks	Mel & Joey Kapuso Mo, Jessica Soho	All Star K		Daddy Di Do Du		Sunday Night Box Office				
RPN 9		Golf Power	Auto Extreme	Fistorama		WWE Experience		Smackdown		Navy NCIS		Without A Trace						The Working President	Ugnayan
IBC 13		Lifestyle	Nation's Peacekeeper	America Atbp.		Home Shopping Network		Home Shopping Network		Legacy Of Hero		2005 Japan 9-Ball Festival				Iyo Ang Katarungan	EL SHADDAI		
JackTV		Reno 911	Banzai	X-Play	Sweat	Street Smarts	The Sib Show	Hip Hop Nation	Ride With Funk Master Flex	WWE Afterburn		WWE Smackdown				Shorties Watching Shorties	The Man Show	Insomniac W/ Dave Attell	Beat The Geeks
Nickelodeon	Girls In Love	Naturally Sadie	As Told By Ginger	Tao Shu The Warrior Boy	Lat, The Kampung Boy	The Adventures Of Tenali Raman	Rugrats	Danny Phantom	My Life As A Teenage Robot	SpongeBob SquarePants	The Fairly Odd Parents	Sabrina, The Teenage Witch	Romeo	Girls In Love	Naturally Sadie	As Told By Ginger	Rocket Power	Hey Arnold!	The Wild Thornberrys
MYX		Urban MYX	MYX Backtrax	Pop MYX	OPM MYX	Take 5	My MYX	MYX Hit Chart				Pop MYX	Urban MYX	MYX Presents		My MYX	MYX Backtrax	OPM MYX	Mellow MYX
ETC	Will & Grace	Saturday Night Live		Veronica Mars		American Dreams		One Tree Hill		Queer Eye For The Straight Girl		Average Joe		Rated Oh!	The Insider Weekend	Nip/Tuck		Entertainment Tonight Weekend	
Cinema One				Engkanto				May Pag-ibig Pa Kaya				Di Que Si				War Freak			
Studio 23			Stoplight TV	BYK 101	Hotwire TV	Top Gear	Game Plan	Nganig: The Hidden Files		Exposed		Two & A Half Men	Joey	Will & Grace	[illegible]	Digital Tour (10.15PM)		Fastlane (11.15PM)	
AXN														CSI: Las Vegas (Season 5)		Lost		The Contender	
Star World	Arrested Development	The Apprentice		Miss Match		Business Week Asia	Travel Asia	Wild Card/Criss Angel Supernatural Mindfreak		Malcolm In The Middle	The Kumars At No. 42	Oprah Prime-Time		Parkinson		The Office		Malcolm In The Middle	Oprah Prime Time
CNN	Design 360	World News	International Correspondents	World News	The Daily Show With John Stewart: Global Edition	Larry King Live		World News	World Sport	CNN Presents: A Rising Tide: The Threat Of Global Warming		World News	MainSail	World News	The Daily Show With John Stewart: Global Edition	Global Challenges	CNN Business Traveller	Talk Asia	World Sport
National Geographic		Interpol Investigates		Samsung Best Of The Week		Human Edge	Critterman Wildtech Adventure	Hot Science		Air Crash Investigation		Ten Days To Victory				Interpol Investigates		Samsung Best Of The Week	
Solar Sports		WTA '05 Pacific Life Open Indian Wells, USA					NBA Jam L025	Boxing: J Chavez vs. I. Robinson						NBA Western Conf Finals Game3					Destination Finals
Lifestyle Network	Date With Design	Ground Rules	Outer Spaces	Your Private Island	Breathing Room	Back To Basics	Barefoot Contessa	Everyday Italian	Ciao America With Mario	Food Network Special		E! Entertainment Special		50 Best Celebrity Weddings				Style Star	You're Invited
HBO			Marci X (3.25 PM)		The Next Karate Kid (4.45 PM)				The Challenge (2003)			Anaconda			Mona Lisa Smile				Disclosure
Star Movies				Baby's Day Out			Man In The Mirror (5.45 PM)			The Hot Chick (7.15 PM)				Seabiscuit					The Country Bears (11.20PM)
Cartoon Network	Scooby-Doo Mysteries	The Detective Squad	Tom & Jerry Show	Swat Kats	Duck Dodgers	Xiaolin Showdown	Winx Club	Atomic Betty	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles	Teen Titans	Megas XLR	The Looney Tunes Show		Cartoon Cartoon Show	Power Rangers Ninja Storm	Duck Dodgers	Codename: Kids Next Door	Samurai Jack	Teenage Mutant Ninja Turtles
Disney Channel	Potatoes And Dragons	Sabrina, The Animated Series	The Legend Of Tarzan	Wicked Science	Kim Possible	Totally Spies	That's So Raven	American Dragon	Phil Of The Future	America's Funniest Home Video	Wonderful World Of Disney			Dave The Barbarian	Mr. Bean	America's Funniest Home Video	That's So Raven	Wonderful World Of Disney	
Hallmark Channel	Bewitched	The Blackwater Lightship		Jackie, Ethel, Joan: Women Of Camelot		Jackie, Ethel, Joan: Women Of Camelot				Dummy			Coil (10:35PM)						
Discovery Channel		Science Mysteries		American Chopper		Rides		Mummy Autopsy		Hour Asia		Hour China		Discovery Sunday				Power Zone	
Sports Plus		Italia Serie A Highlights 16		Bank of America Colonial Highlights		French Open '05 Day7 rd. of 16								Get A Grip					

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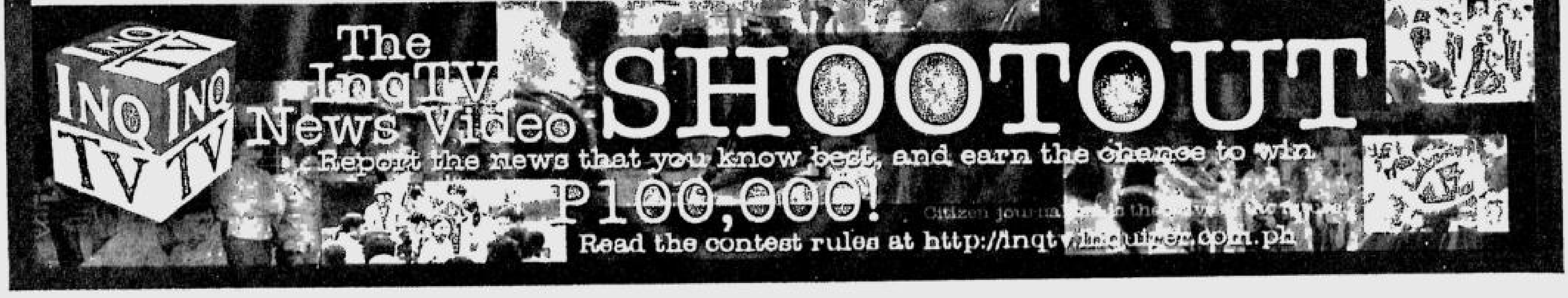

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Editor **Emmie G. Velarde**

BENICIO del Toro: "This is as far as I got."

ARMANDO GALLO

Why Benicio stripped

ONLY IN HOLLYWOOD

Ruben V. Nepales

LOS ANGELES—Trust an actor to respond memorably when asked whether or not he had sex with a certain actress.

When **Benicio del Toro** was asked about rumors that he and **Scarlett Johansson** got, um, passionate in an elevator at the Chateau Marmont off Sunset Boulevard after an award ceremony, he stripped, taking off his clothes one by one, before a laughing and applauding group of reporters.

The terrific actor, who stars in the stylish crime noir "Sin City," began by saying, "I tell you what. The Chateau Marmont has seven floors." Using his arms to demonstrate how narrow the elevator is at that legendary hotel, Benicio continued, "The elevator is maybe not wider than this. And the hotel has seven floors. So it would be like, okay, we get into the elevator. Okay. One (he started taking off his jacket). Okay. Two. Three (he began unbuttoning his flannel shirt). Four. Five. Six. Seven. The door opens. That's as far as I got."

He had stipped down to his black tee. As the laughter and applause subsided, "Sin City's" villain paid tribute to his alleged fellow elevator passenger. "Scarlett is a beautiful girl, and a very good actress, too. Let's not forget that."

Benicio's impromptu striptease wasn't exactly a flat out denial. A colleague told me later, "He didn't have to take off all his clothes to have sex." My laughter reverberated all the way to the famous Hollywood sign.

Restless Crowe

In last Friday's column, I wrote about how emotional and giddy the newlywed **Renee Zellweger** was during our recent press con with her. That same afternoon, our group interviewed **Russell Crowe**, also in connection with "Cinderella Man," which I described as the first serious contender for awards this year.

The mood of our exchange with the actor known for being "mercurial" was different. Several minutes into the interview, Russell complained about several things distracting him, including photographers snapping away despite his request that they hold off until the press con was done.

Russell pleaded, "If you just chill, it would be great, thank you."

When things didn't settle down, especially on the subject of taking pictures, the actor said, "I'm going for a cigarette. You guys talk it out and have a little argument about it and I'll come back in." With those words, Russell left the Burton Room of the Four Seasons.

On his feet

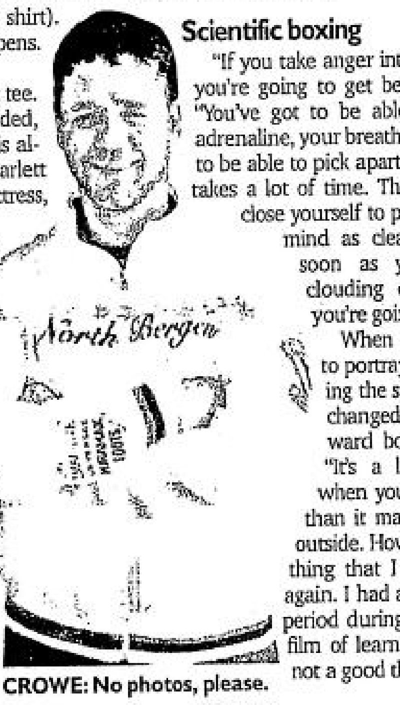
A few minutes later, he did come back. But the volatile actor didn't take his seat. He remained standing behind his chair for the rest of the press con. As Russell answered questions, sometimes he paced back and forth, hands in the pockets of his blue jeans or arms crossed over his chest. He lit and smoked a cigarette although smoking in public indoor spaces is banned in California (of course, that's hardly news-breaking; other actors, including **Colin Farrell**, chain-smoke during interviews). The actor probably did all these things to try to stay calm.

. Russell, who has been involved in brawls in the past, must have learned a thing or two in portraying **Jim Braddock**, a real-life heavyweight champion boxer in the 1930s, in "Cinderella Man" (he and **Paul Giamatti**, as his manager, are superb). Earlier, before leaving the room temporarily, he was asked if a boxer should leave his anger outside the ring.

Scientific boxing

"If you take anger into the boxing ring, you're going to get beaten," he replied. "You've got to be able to control your adrenaline, your breathing and you've got to be able to pick apart your opponent. It takes a lot of time. The idea really is to close yourself to pain and keep your mind as clear as possible. As soon as your mind starts clouding over, that's when you're going to get hurt."

When I asked if training to portray a boxer and filming the slugging scenes had changed his attitude toward boxing, he told me, "It's a lot more scientific when you get involved in it than it may appear from the outside. However, it's not something that I ever desire to do again. I had a very concentrated period during the course of this film of learning why fighting is not a good thing (he laughed). I



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LISA YAN LU

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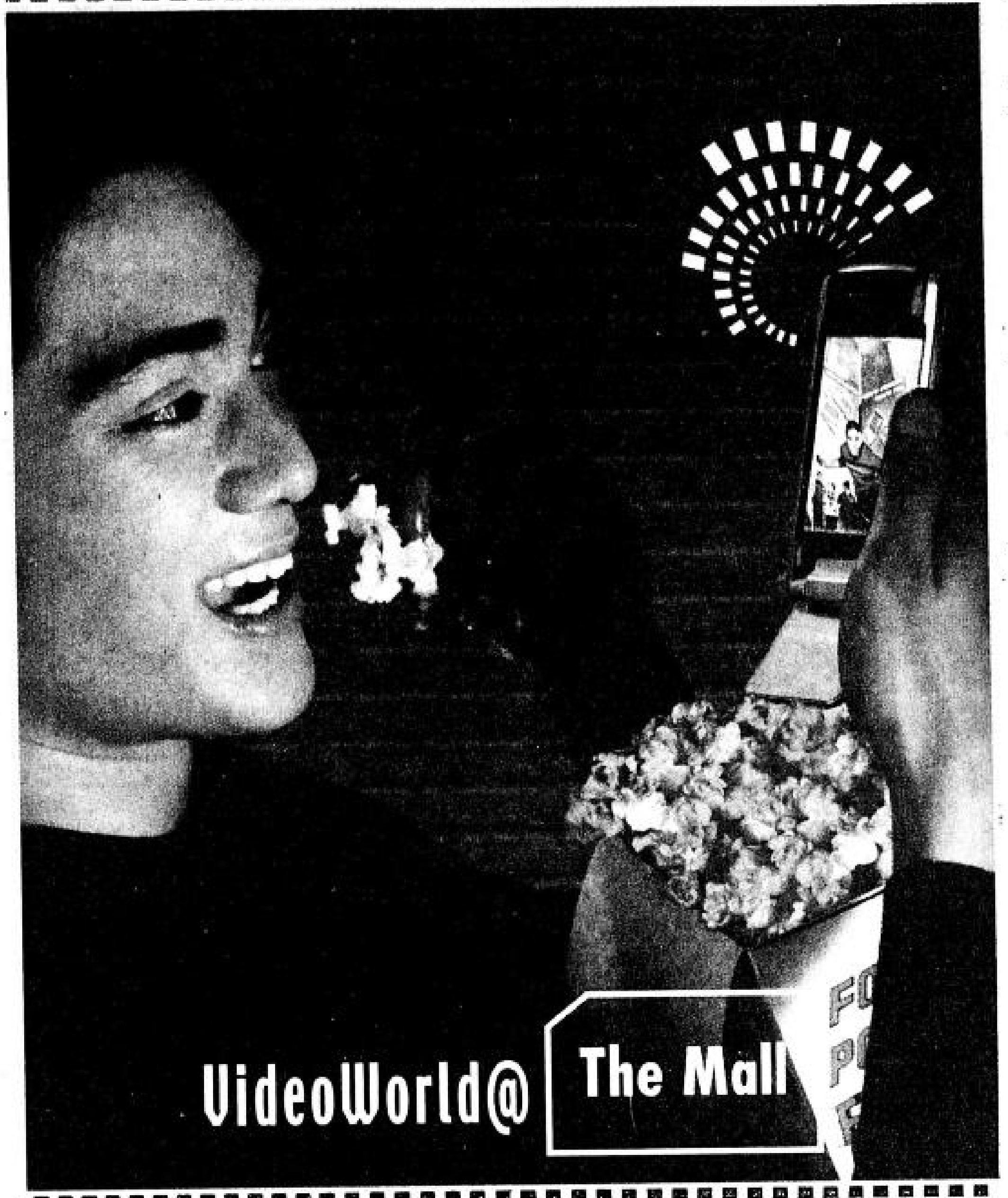

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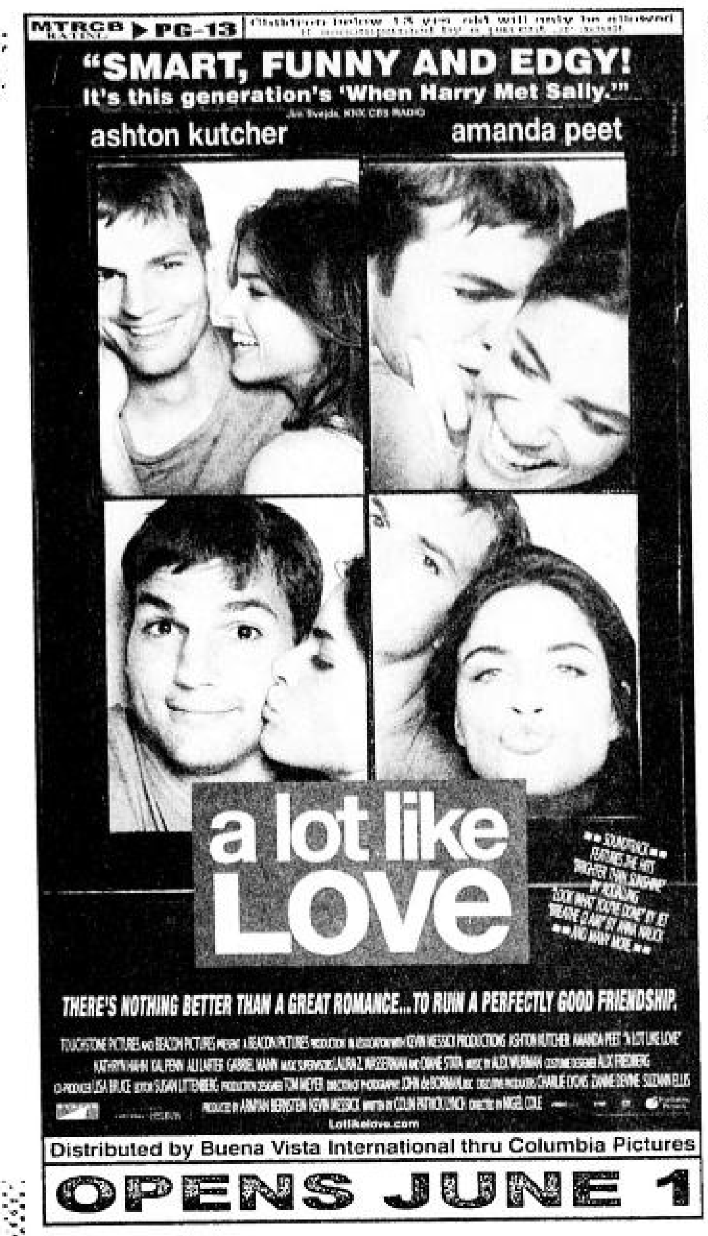
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OPENS JUNE 1

Why Benicio . . .

From page A3-1

have a great deal of respect for any man who can strip down to his shorts, get into a confined space like that (a ring) where there's nowhere to run and face down another man. But it's not something that I personally get any kind of thrill from."

He added, "What I was saying before partially joking is true. I don't want to ever get myself into a violent situation again. I've seen and felt its effect. I know more now and I really don't want to find myself in that situation using that knowledge."

Still, don't write Russell off as now having turned into a gentle pussycat. When a reporter asked Russell to confirm a claim by **Craig Bierko** (who plays his boxing nemesis, Max Baer, in the film) that Russell did not socialize with him to help realize their onscreen adversarial relationship, the Aussie came out swinging.

"Craig Bierko has got an imagination," he declared. "His remembrance of the experience is significantly different from anybody else's (laughter). I read that he was upset that he wasn't invited to my 40th birthday party. My 'birthday party' was spent on satellite connection with my wife and child in Australia. Sorry for not inviting him (more laughter)."

What softie?

The actor, now 41, continued, "What Craig is mistaking is the fact that he hadn't done enough work yet. He had to be drilled and drilled and brought up to where we needed him to be because if Max Baer isn't frightening and isn't capable, then we don't have a movie. Craig has never been in this kind of situation before. It's never been required of him to put this much work and this much of himself into a role. He didn't realize what he was getting into. He did afterwards (laughter)."

Still, Russell claims to be a "softie." Okay, that one is worthy of a sensational headline. "I'm just the biggest softie you'll ever come across," confessed the "Gladiator" himself. "Before this, I'm looking down there at this lady holding a baby and another pregnant lady—they were examining her stomach and that was really getting to me. I love being affected. I love having a reaction to something. What I really hate is going to a movie that doesn't give me anything. I just can't stomach the waste of money and time."

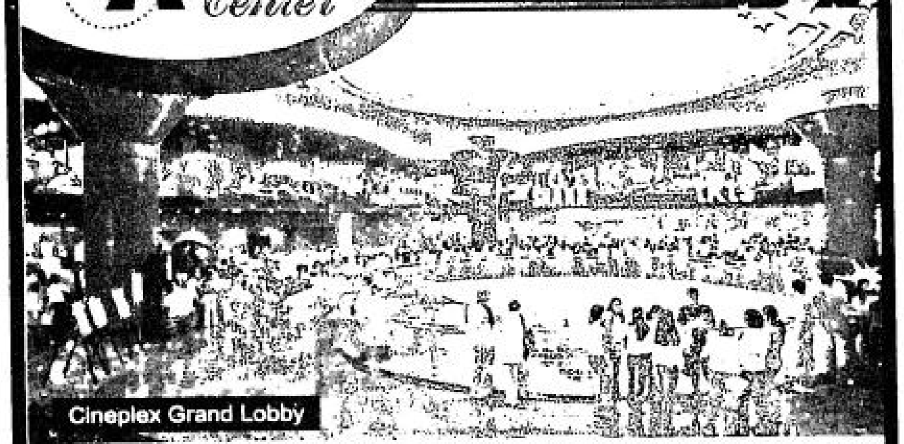
Happy dad

Well, being dad to Charlie, who turns two in December, and husband to singer-actress Danielle Spencer must be mellowing him a bit. "I'm loving being a dad," revealed this guy, also a singer-songwriter-musician whose latest album is available only online at www.myhandmyheart.com. "Every single day of my life is significantly better because I'm a father."

Of being married, he confessed, "I can't really quite understand how I managed to cope through my days without getting cuddled these many times. I couldn't speak more highly of the experience. Every week with my wife, we notice a deepening of the relationship, a further understanding. The cuddles get more intense. I have no complaints in my life at this point in time."

(E-mail the columnist at rvnepales@yahoo.com.)

Araneta Center Leisure Guide



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12:40 / 3:40 / 6:40 / 9:40
HOUSE OF WAX
1:50 / 4:20 / 6:50 / 9:20
AMITYVILLE HORROR
12:30 / 2:40 / 4:50 / 7:00 / 9:10
STAR WARS - EPISODE III
11:50 /12:30 /12:50 / 2:50 / 3:30 / 3:50
5:50 / 6:30 / 6:50 / 8:50 / 9:30 / 9:50
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12:10 / 2:30 / 4:50 / 7:10 / 9:30
MADAGASCAR
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❶ STAR WARS - EPISODE III
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❷ LA VISA LOCA
11:20 / 1:35 / 3:50 / 6:05/ 8:20
❸ UNLEASHED
11:25 / 1:45 / 4:05 / 6:25 / 8:45
❹ HOUSE OF WAX
12:40 / 3:10 / 5:40 / 8:10
❺ MADAGASCAR
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May 30 12:30pm Qatar vs UAE / 2:45pm India vs I R Iran
5:00pm Jordan vs Kuwait / 7:15pm Kazakhstan vs Philippines
16th FIBA ASIA CHAMPIONS CUP
June 1 12:30pm Kuwait vs UAE / 2:45pm Qatar vs Syria
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'On This Island,' once more

DUE to insistent public demand, Actor's Actors Inc.'s (AAI) "Once On This Island" will have an additional performance tonight at 8, at the Carlos P. Romulo Theater, 4th Podium, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Ave. corner Gil Puyat.

The musical is based on a story by Rosa Guy, "My Love, My Love," which, in turn, was loosely adapted from the fairytale "Little Mermaid."

"Once On This Island" is set in a mythical Caribbean island where two lovers defy the odds to be together. Call 8919999.

JEFFREY Hidalgo and Raki Vega, stars of "Island"

SHOW TIME

Tonight

"Star in a Million's" League of 5 featuring **Mabel Bacusmo**, **Nikki Bacolod**, **Jona Lumbera**, **Ryan Racal** and grand champion **Jerome Sala** will be at the **Metropoint Mall**, 6 p.m.

"The RX Concert Series at the Mall" featuring **Sugarfree** at **SM North Edsa**'s The Garden

604 at **SM Bicutan**

Tomorrow

Douglas Nierras' Powerdance annual recital entitled "Pinoy Powerdance Fiesta" at the AFP Theater in Camp Aguinaldo, 7:30 p.m. Call 9958287.

Side A at Hyatt Regency's **Calesa Bar**. Call 8331234

Freestyle at **Tavern on the Square**, Greenbelt 3

Bernie Uy at **Merk's**

Asin at **'70s Bistro**, Anonas St., QC. Call 434-3597

May 31

M.Y.M.P. at **Tavern on the Square**, Greenbelt 3

Vintage Dancers at **Siete Pecados Bar** of The Westin Philippine Plaza. Call 551-5555

Bernie Uy at Fiesta San Miguel, **Funnside**, Timog Ave., QC; 8 p.m.

THE PARTY GOES ON "Bedazzled 2" and "Folies de Mwah" at Club Mwah on Boni Avenue in Mandaluyong continue to draw party crowds locally and, internationally, queries via the website www.clubmwah.com, according to EVP Pocholo Mallilin. A special celebration is set on Monday, Mallilin announces, with the show, "The Best of Mwah." Call 5357943 or 5322826.

ANNIVERSARY Raymond Steven Shih will celebrate his first year anniversary this month as host of IBC 13's Asian Music Television. He is set to release his first album soon.

China's top of the century

HONG KONG—Chinese director Chen Kaige's 1993 tragic love movie, "Farewell, My Concubine" has won the heart of the Hong Kong public and been voted as the Most Popular Chinese Film of the Century.

The poll was co-organized by the Henderson ArtReach to celebrate a centenary of Chinese cinema.

Over 25,000 votes were cast by Hong Kong movie enthusiasts through a ballot and the Internet from a shortlist of 103 Chinese films drawn up by industry experts and filmmakers in March.

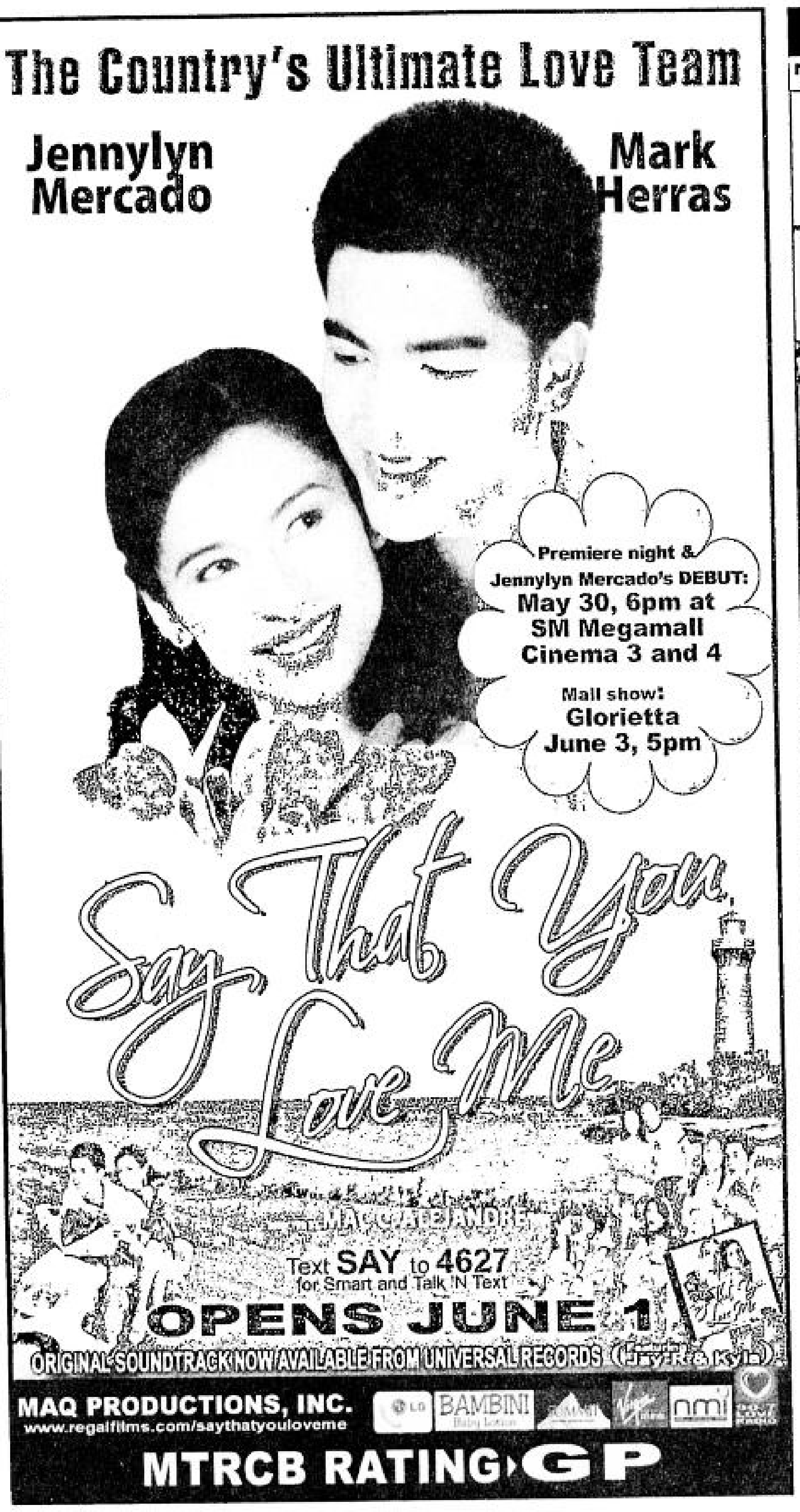
"Farewell," starring Gong Li and the late Leslie Cheung, won the Palme d'Or at the 1993 Cannes Film Festival.

Runners-up

Second place in the HK poll was Wong Kar-wai's "Days of Being Wild," followed by John Woo's gangster flick, "A Better Tomorrow" in third.

Leslie Cheung, was voted Most Favorite Actor, with action star Jackie Chan coming in second, followed by Francis Ng, Bruce Lee and Jet Li.

Maggie Cheung, who won Best Actress in 2004 at the Cannes fest for her role as a drug addict in the French movie "Clean," was voted Most Popular Actress of the Century. *AFP*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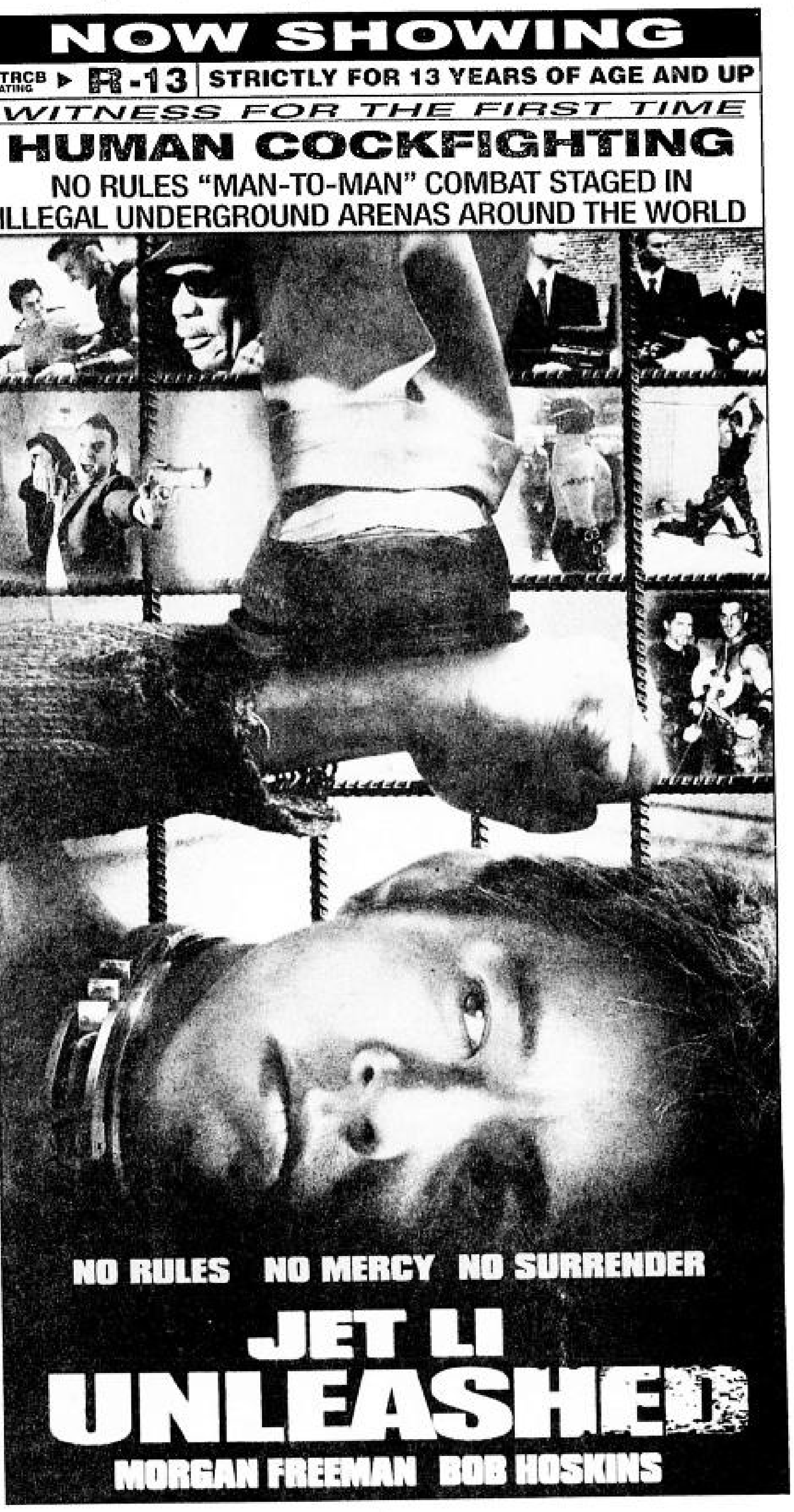
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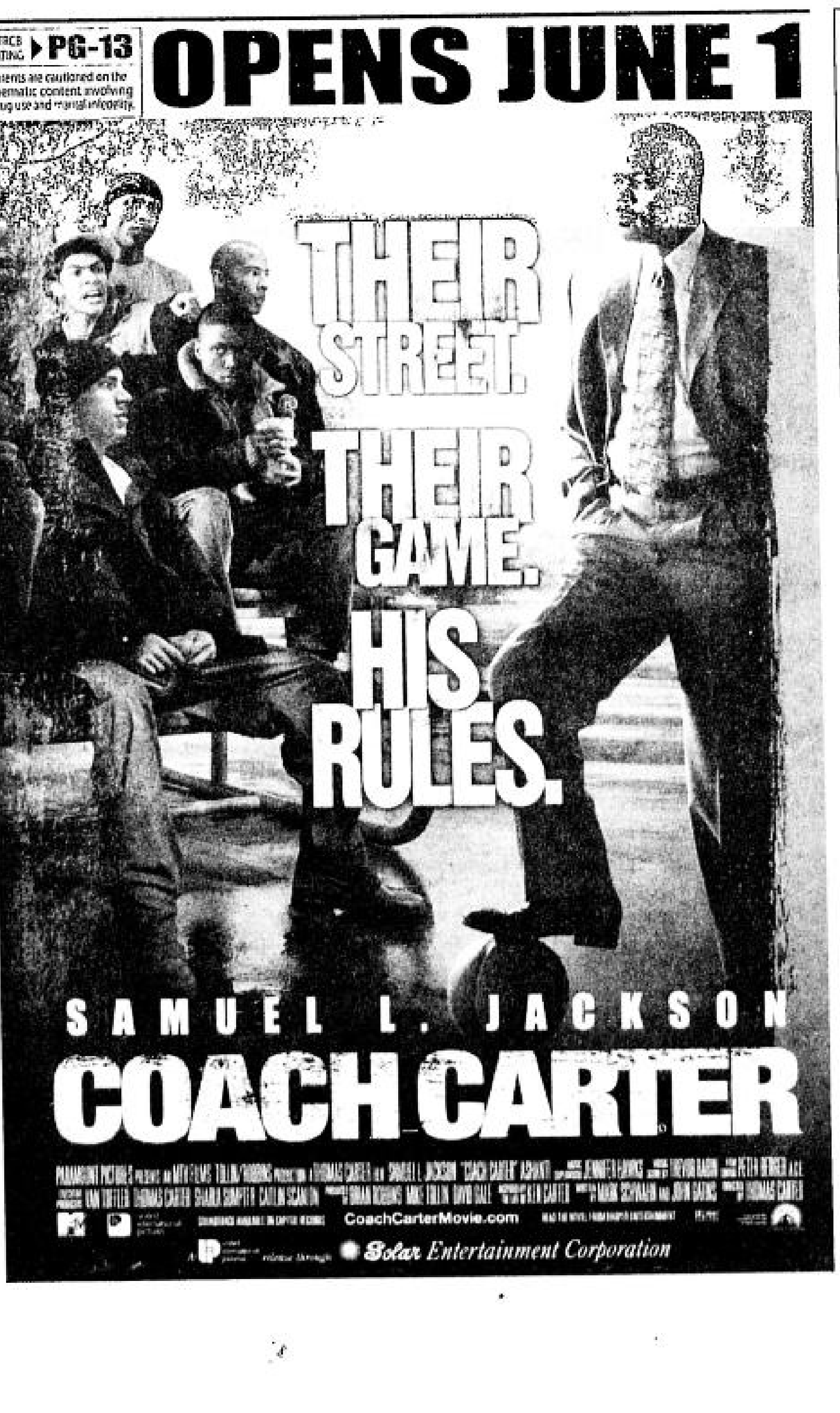
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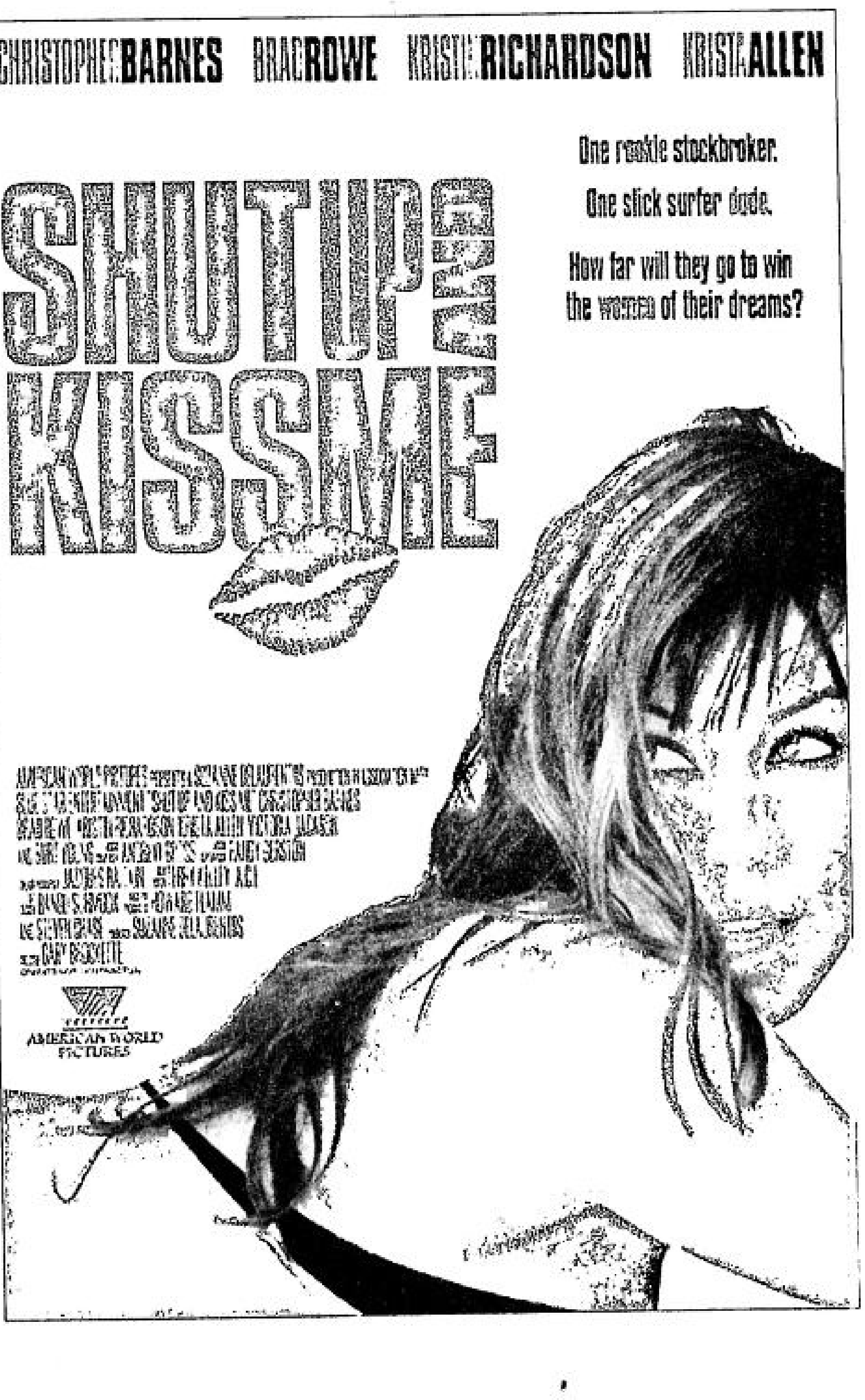
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AMERICAN WORLD PICTURES

'Idol' vote bigger than the US polls

LOS ANGELES—Fox Television said some 500 million votes were cast in this season of the just-concluded "American Idol," more than four times the number of ballots tallied in last year's US presidential election.

However, "American Idol" fans routinely cast multiple votes for their favorite contestants, as the show's ground rules allow.

In any case, nearly 30 million viewers tuned in to see country singer Carrie Underwood crowned on Wednesday (Thursday morning in Manila) as the latest winner on Fox's wildly popular prime-time talent contest.

The two-hour finale was watched by 29.4 million viewers overall, including about 15.8 million aged 18 to 49—the young-adult audience most coveted by advertisers, Nielsen Media Research reported the next day.

As expected, that tally clinched Fox's victory as the season's No. 1 network for 18-49 ratings, the measure broadcasters generally regard as the most important benchmark of prime-time success.

The fourth edition of "Idol," America's most watched TV series this year, ended with Underwood, 22, edging out rocker Bo Bice, 29, as the favorite among viewers who cast their votes by telephone and text messages.

"THANK you, America!"

"Thank you, America!" she said, fighting back tears.

The series has become a TV and music industry sensation since first hitting the US airwaves in 2002, turning several of its winners and runners-up into overnight recording stars.

The latest "American Idol" competition as a whole averaged 26.5 million viewers this season, surpassing the three previous installments of the talent search. And Underwood proved a bigger draw than her immediate predecessor, Fantasia Barrino.

But the conclusion to season two, when Ruben Studdard triumphed over Clay Aiken, generated a larger audience than Wednesday night's finale. *Reuters*

Occupational hazards

Text, styling and direction by Larry Leviste

AJ DEE (or Angel James Dee), segment host on ABS-CBN's "MRS (Most Requested Show)" and "The Buzz" takes fame in stride. AJ is paired with Angelica Panganiban in the forthcoming *teleserye* "Vietnam Rose."

He acknowledges the attendant occupational hazards.

"Once, in Glorietta, I was recognized by young gay fans. They immediately crowded around me and asked for autographs. Suddenly I felt a hand touching me. I just excused myself and walked away. It was the first time it happened to me. I guess it comes with the territory," said AJ.

The top three intrigues about him this year are: 1) he slept with a lady boss to get TV jobs, 2) he is gay, 3) success has gone straight to his head.

"All untrue," he insisted. "But I'm no longer bothered by gossip."

AJ is from Naga City. As a youth he trained as a swimmer, which explains the sexy, sculpted physique. He competed with the Philippine team in Brunei and Osaka.

He finished Business Management at Ateneo de Naga. He was spotted by a talent agent while escorting the candidates of Miss Bicolandia in 2001. He joined the Mossimo Bikini Summit Competition in 2003 and placed second to Brent Javier. He was first runner-up in Body Shots the same year. He is the smiling face in Smart and Del Monte 202 commercials.

But it was the "TV Idol" competition on a lunchtime show that made AJ a household name.

He was the tallest and hunkiest of the five finalists.

Now he appears five times a week on "MRS" and tapes twice a week for "The Buzz."

AJ loves eating the greenest mangoes with salt. He cries over romantic movies, like "A Walk in the Clouds" and binges on cheeseburgers and crispy *pata*. He recently purchased a house for his family.

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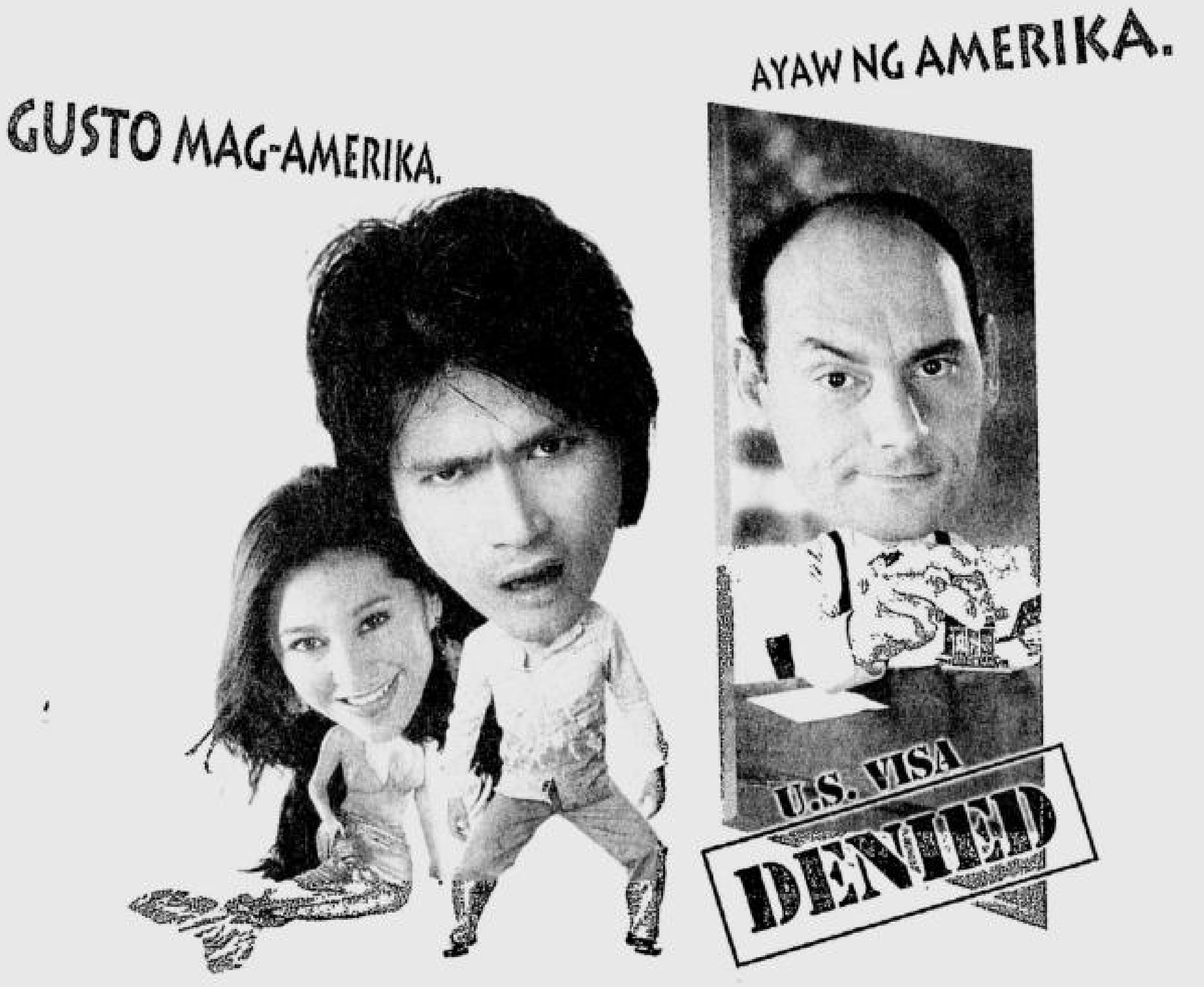
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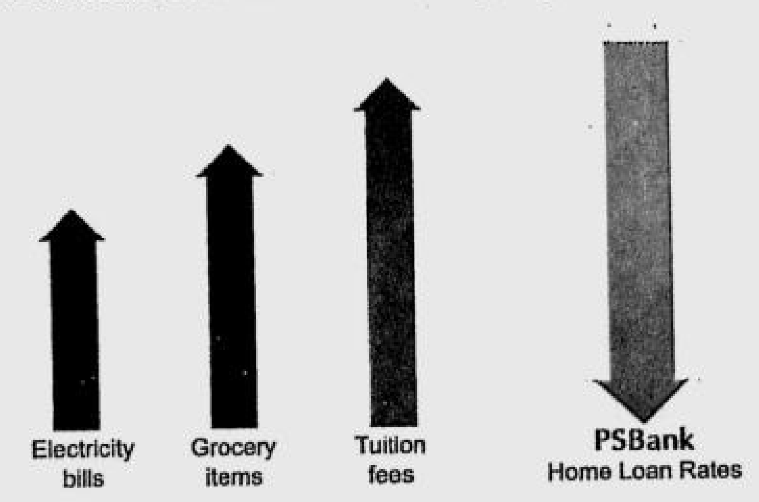

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Sunday **BIZ**

Business Features Editor **Margie Quimpo-Espino**

ANNABEL at Luau restaurant in 1970

Learning mom's lessons well

Annabel goes with the Cornell Club of the Philippines to Taiwan

By Tina Arceo-Dumlao

A HOTEL or a serviced apartment is nothing more than a majestic, hulking piece of concrete unless people come to check into one of the rooms, sample the cuisine, or pay extra for the services.

Few people know this better than veteran hotelier Annabella Santos-Wisniewski, head of consulting firm Raintree Partners Inc., who has successfully rescued hotels in the United States from the brink of bankruptcy and put Discovery Suites in the Philippines on the world map, by daring to do things differently.

Doing the unexpected is a trait that Wisniewski first learned as a young girl in the 1950s helping out in the large kitchen of her mother, Honorata, who put up the famous Bungalow restaurant along San Marcelino St. in Manila.

"I worked part-time as a cashier, but what I really loved to do was tinker in the bakeshop. My mother was famous for her cakes, and I helped decorate them. I was really more of a creative person," Wisniewski tells SundayBiz.

Frustrated architect

ANNABEL and Tom Wisniewski on their wedding day, 1968

Her natural creative bent was brought to the fore at the prestigious Cornell Hotel School, from which she graduated in 1965 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Hotel Administration, the first Filipina to do so.

Annabel says she really wanted to become an architect. But she was subtly dissuaded by her mother, who encouraged her to learn something more closely related to the food business.

Fortunately, she learned more than a little of both fields.

"In Cornell, you learn about buildings, engineering, architectural drafting and business law. That's important because you do a lot of development work when you are in the hotel business. You have to know something about elevators and plumbing," she says.

ANNABELLA Santos-Wisniewski today

Annabel was supposed to bring all that knowledge back home right after graduation. Her mother even put up the Luau restaurant along Roxas Boulevard, a product of one of her papers in a food facilities course at Cornell that got an A, to lure her back.

Making it in the US

But Annabel was determined to first make it in the United States, and she got her chance when she was taken in as a management trainee at the Kahala Hilton in Hawaii.

That stint did not last long, however, as she had to come home to open the Luau restaurant.

Thus, come back home, she did. But that lasted all of six months.

"I told my mother that I have to go back to formally resign from Kahala. But then I went up to New York, and called up one of my professors. I told him that if I did not get a job, I would be out on the streets the next day," Wisniewski recalls.

Because her professor could not bear the thought of her being thrown out into the streets, he helped her get a job—management trainee, again—at the Waldorf Astoria in New York, where she was assigned at the front office.

To live in New York has always been one of her dreams, thus, she soaked up the experience of working in a giant, 2,000-room swank hotel frequented by movie stars.

No valid visa

There she was having the greatest time of her life, when she got a call from US immigration on Valentine's Day of 1967, telling her she would be deported because she had been working for eight months in New York without a valid visa.

Cornell came to her rescue, yet again, as one of her professors helped her get admitted to Cornell University for postgraduate studies. That kept her in the US.

She quit her job at the Waldorf, and worked at Cornell as a teacher's assistant and resident assistant in the dormitory to get free meals.

"I believe that was one of the best things I ever did. That experience taught me that if you want something badly enough, you will find ways to get it," Wisniewski says.

A postgraduate degree was not the only thing she got from Cornell, this time around.

FIRST JOB

She also found there her life partner, Tom, who also graduated from Cornell after serving his country in Vietnam as a US Marine.

YOUNG Annabel with her mother and role model, Honorata

They got married at the Cornell Hotel School on May 31, 1968, with their families and Cornell friends in full attendance. That started a happy marriage and a partnership that would lead them all across the US and Asia, and eventually the Philippines.

Annabella and Tom first came to the country as a couple in December of 1968, and they were supposed to stay for just a few days. Those few days, however, turned into 11 years.

"At first, we were supposed to just help my mother, who was awarded the food services deal for the Development Bank of the Philippines. It was a big project because DBP had 3,000 employees," she says.

The DBP was the fourth in Wisniewski's mother's list of clients for food services. By the end of their 11-year stint in the country, the network grew to 28.

The Wisniewski clan also grew, to five, with the birth of three sons—Michael, Andrej and Martin—who were born three years apart, and all weighing 7 pounds and 12 ounces. Talk about portion control.

It was the uncertainties due to Martial Law that brought the Wisniewskis back to the United States in 1982.

Back to the US

"We went back to the US and put up our own company. It was an exciting time and very challenging," she says.

Over the next 14 years, Annabel and Tom got jobs taking over distressed boutique hotels, and turning them around from red to black. Some were on the verge of closing down, but with a little bit of ingenuity and marketing savvy, they became profitable.

"That was again one of the best moves I made, because it taught me to think outside of the box. It also taught me to be daring, that even if you are never sure, you have to try," she says.

That strength she got from her mother who built her business with a little more than determination and a gift for cooking good food.

"She was an entrepreneur and a woman ahead of her time. As a young girl, I remember her changing the restaurant all the time. Eventually, it became a popular

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FOC at Market! Market!

GARY and Trixie Ramirez

Expanding concept store ideas

THERE is an emerging trend in the retailing industry that could be termed as the next retail wave. It began recognition in the '90s among US and European retail shops. Call it as you may: concept stores, destination places, fashion hub. Whatever you call it, one thing is certain, you just don't shop in these stores because you find what you need. You shop in these stores because you might just find something that you still don't have. The idea is to sell an idea; not just the product.

In European retailing businesses, a concept store may be defined as a place where fashion, design, art, photography and music, as well as new technological breakthroughs can interact. In the US, retailing experts further elaborated this concept by stating its goal: "to immerse people in the product itself and how it relates to values and lifestyle." From an American retail consulting firm's point of view, a concept store can generate 60 percent more merchandise sales per square foot than a traditional store of the same size.

In the Philippines, one businessman further developed the concept and made inroads in diversifying it to profitability and acceptance. Gary Ramirez, 36 of the HIP at the Power Plant Mall, Digital Exchange (with business partner Choy Cojuangco) at Glorietta and FOC—Freedom of Choice at Market! Market!, explains,

"Pioneered in it? No, but diversified it, yes. It's not exactly new and as I recall, there used to be a store called Koalition Zoo at Robinson's Galleria in the early '90s and it had several small shops. It had its success during its time but what I'm doing now is seeing how far we can diversify this concept. It has broadened much more from its basic concept."

Being a fashion retailer, together with his wife and business partner Trixie, he knew of many people with good products who want to get into business but can't get into the mall with its high rental fees or leasing cost: So he thought of creating a place where these people can have the chance to show off and sell their stuff. The kind of products that have character and are unique enough for a different kind of shopper who always wants something new, basically, appealing to medium to high end users. And with every find comes the feeling of satisfaction.

The concept really is to have a community of good stores from a small group of great tenants that will accommodate discriminate shoppers. For convenience and control, there is also a centralized payment counter for all.

First of Gary's concept store is the fashion hub called, HIP at the Power Plant Mall which is now over three years old and up for renovation soon. It has 14 tenants that carry upscale ladies apparel, accessories, bags and shoes. " Its clientele was originally targeted from 11 year olds to young adults but later, even 40-year-old hip moms have become regulars.

His recent addition for his fashion concept store is the FOC or Freedom of Choice at the Market! Market! at the Bonifacio Global City. The same atmosphere at HIP is felt here but in a bigger scale. The area is more spacious. Its 12 tenants include Preview, 15 2 Lily, Hallway, Venetta, InStore, Funky Find, Hot Kisses. There are also stores that look after male fashion. As the concept store name says, the buyer has the freedom to choose, mix and match his picks and purchases. It hopes to generate as much regular customer as it had in the first store at the Power Plant Mall.

What makes the concept stores of Gary successful is the amount of hard work, gut feel and passion that goes into choosing the location and the potential tenants. These preclude studies and more feasibility studies and a go-for-it attitude.

"When we talk to our potential tenants, we tell them the real situation, about the products, our policies, benefits, etc. And when we promote the business, we tell them as it is, we don't overdo it. The reality of the business is that a lot of hard work is involved, the get-rich-quick-scheme doesn't apply but they will have a sense of fulfillment and acceptance. Why? Their products may not be in a big space but it has a lot of potential. We stay objective."

A prerequisite is the approval of the product to be included in the concept store. It should be appealing, attractive and quality made. Trixie, with her eclectic fashion sense gives the assessment physically and Gary looks at the business' sustainability as a whole, from each tenant to the group of tenants. The personality of the tenant is also very important. A good tenant is someone they can establish long term relationships with. Contracts are good for two years and can be renewed depending on the agreement with the malls. Since the products cater to a more upscale market, the location is very vital. Gary considers his relationship with his mall partners very ideal.

"With Ayala, they are very professional and they take care of you. They tell you if something is doable or not. With Power Plant, it's very personalized, they are always available for you; that mall is like a social place. I'm very fortunate that both lessors are very accommodating to the concept."

Gary and Trixie started with the Migo Miga clothing line and have been in the retail and wholesale business ever since. Being one of the few local manufacturers still existing, they have a very clear-cut understanding of the business climate and market to stay competitive.

"Our young clientele are our most effective advertisers. Being young-inspired, the hip concept makes us very up-to-date with trends and fashion that would appeal to this young market, our captured market. Our products are practically seen in every teen girl's magazine and we're happy for it. In the retail/wholesale business you constantly think of the rental, location, tenants. I always say it's hard work and a lot of guts. The goal is not focused on the profit itself but in making more business, making better people out of this businessmen, creating more jobs, working with passion and creativity and see it happen."

Rhona Rufo, Contributor

EXECUTIVE TRAVEL

Backpacking in Kota Kinabalu, Brunei

By Sandra Garcia
Contributor

WE'RE not doing business travel this issue. We are sharing travel tips for one of our readers, Raimond Del Rosario, who is backpacking to Kota Kinabalu in Malaysia and Brunei this July.

Packing that backpack

Use a simple water proof duffel bag large enough to carry a few change of clothes, bathing suit, towel or sarong which can double up as a bedsheet, one pair each of sandals and running shoes, basic toiletries, basic medication as in allergy pills, paracetamol, LBM tabs, band-aid, and Bonamine and mint candies. A simple camera, thermo jug (always have drinking water on hand), a flashlight and spare batteries, cell phone charger with adaptor, extra supplies for contact lens, a spare pair of prescription glasses, sun glasses, a Swiss Army knife, a small pocket directory with frequently called numbers and a ripped out chapter of a travel guide, a combination padlock and a good book. Don't forgot your sunblock and insect repellant.

Wear a pouch or money belt that can hold your passport, credit cards, identification card and money around your waist.

Selamat datang!

Nationals of Asean Countries, including the Philippines, do not require a visa for a Social and Business visit not exceeding one month. We picked up the following tips on do's and dont's when traveling in these two places:

- Remove shoes when entering homes and places of worship.
- Dress neatly in a suitable attire which covers arms and legs when visiting places of worship.
- Handle food with your right hand.
- Do not point your foot at someone.
- When giving or receiving money gifts to/from a Malaysian, do so with your right hand.
- For women, cover your shoulders and thighs and no topless bathing on the beaches or in hotel pools and men should note that bare torsos are also not accepted in the villages and towns.

When greeting a Muslim, offer your right hand then bring it towards you, fingertips lightly touching your heart. This is the traditional Salam or "greeting of acceptance." Hindus greet with a Namaste (in Hindi) or Vanakam (Tamil). Both palms are brought together as in prayer at mid-chest level. With a Chinese, you may shake hands. If you are really unsure about all the different forms of greetings, just smile and nod your head slightly when introduced.

Travel within Malaysia is relatively cheap and convenient. Traveling from one center to the other, unless connected by an air-route, can be negotiated by rail, road or boat.

Car and motorbike rental is not expensive. You can use your Philippine Driver's License or International Driver's License when you hire and drive a vehicle hire. Seat belts are a must for cars and helmets for motorcycles.

When taking a taxi, negotiate price with driver before your trip so you don't end up paying more than you should.

For the adventurous, when in Malaysia, you can go caving, rock climbing and jungle trekking but make sure you:

- Never venture into any caves alone and always carry a reliable torch, and spare batteries. If you are entering a tunnel, bring along a ball of fine string which you can tie onto something sturdy before entering a tunnel and reel it out as you explore further, ensuring you won't get lost on your return.
- Keep a look out for loose gravel and rocks.
- Personally check clip fastenings and ropes for signs of wear when rock-climbing.
- Have your insect repellant for the mosquitoes and other tropical insects when you go jungle-trekking. According to our source on the net, leeches can be a problem in the jungle, particularly if you are near water. These blood-sucking creatures have an anti-coagulant in their saliva that could cause problems. Simply sprinkle a little salt on the creatures or burn them off with a cigarette lighter. Better still, wear protective clothes in the form of long trousers, closed shoes and socks (pulled over the trouser bottoms) for protection. Long sleeves will help too.

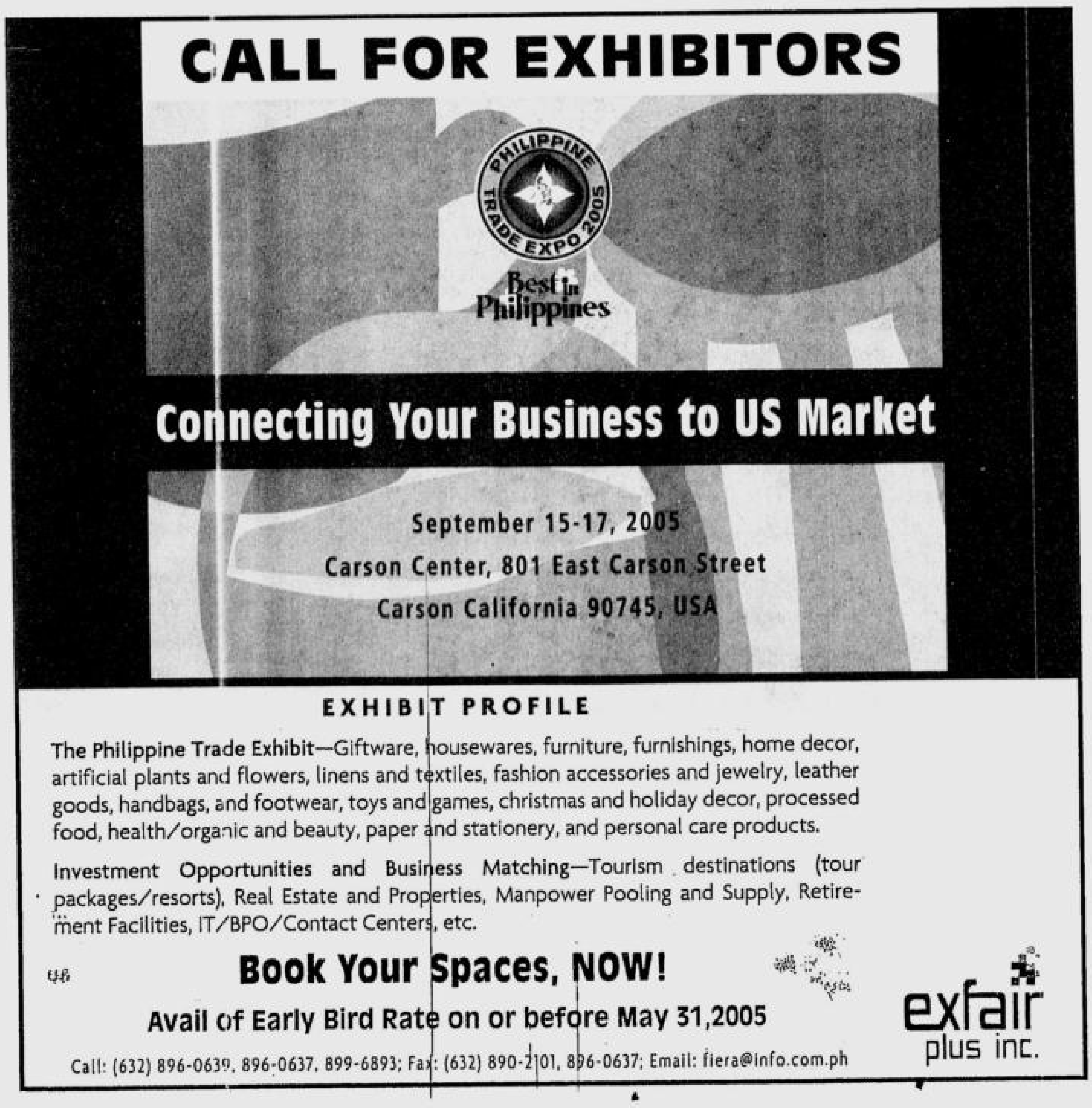
Must see in Brunei: The Jame' Asr Hassanil Bolkiah Mosque. It was built to commemorate the 25th anniversary of the Sultan's reign. The largest mosque in Brunei, it is clearly visible along the main route into town from the airport.

Lastly. Dangerous drugs are a NO NO in these two places. The use of or distribution of drugs carry a mandatory death penalty.

Selamat jalan!

For feedback and travel tips, please e-mail sdg1402@yahoo.com

THE JAME' Asr Hassanil Bollaah Mosque is a must-see in Brunei.



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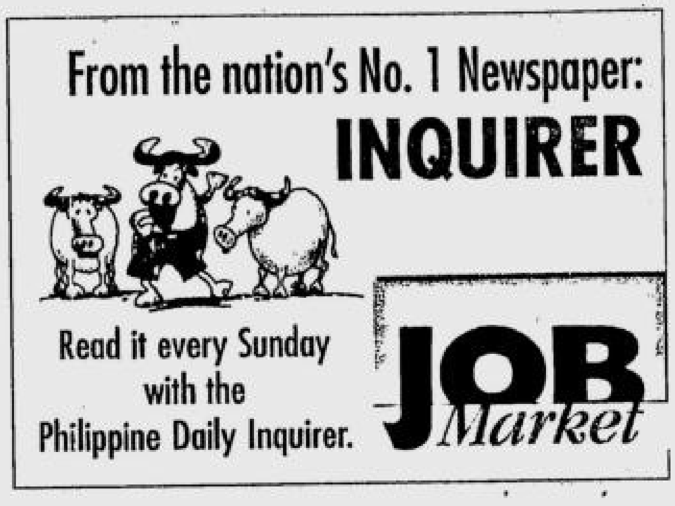

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JOB Market

Why Filipinos missed boat of progress

By Minyong Ordoñez
Contributor

WE MISSED the boat. In the past, we demonstrated many superior skills in making products highlighting Filipino artistry and talent. But we failed to make big business out of them. *Sayang!* Had we done so, the Philippines would have found a niche in the world market today.

The music market

Manila could have been the music capital of Asia, doing mega export in music creation, production and distribution. Filipinos could have owned the huge music industry to supply the needs of Asia for Western music.

Filipino composers, musicians and vocalists are the only English-speaking Asians who have the instinct and feel for classical, Latin, jazz, pop and rock.

We are a musical people and our credentials are very impressive. And I don't mean just the Cebuano guitar makers and Matud Nila strummers, and Bicolano Sarung Banggi moonlight serenaders. Let's include the hundreds of Banda Unos playing John Philip Sousa in every town fiesta since the Spanish times. The Filipino musicians from Laguna who dished out swing, sweet and jazz in the clubs of Shanghai before the Communist takeover in 1949, and the peripatetic Pinoy bands who provided the night beat in the American bases in Hawaii, Guam and the Marianas. How about our pianists who played Chopin, Gershwin, Berlin, McCartney and Freddie Aguilar in the hotel lounges of Bangkok, Hong Kong, Saigon, as far as Kabul? That sweet voice singing like Barbra Streisand or Celine Dion in many cocktail lounges in Asian cities is a Filipina. The crooning, swooning Sinatra or Michael Bublé sound-alike is, guess who, a Filipino. Remember our geniuses on the bandstand: Tirso Cruz, Serafin Payawal, Romy Katindig, Lito Molina, Emil Mijares, Dr. Alandy of Lucena, and the Babat Orchestra of Lucban. They gave Tommy Dorsey, Glenn Miller and Count Basie a run for their money.

Ancient? No, sir! Lea Salonga draws and Monique Wilson raves as stars in Broadway and London. The cast of Miss Saigon is mostly Filipino and Filipina stage stars. We breed them like rabbits; golden voiced Celeste, Kuh, Dulce, Regine, and today's melodic youth, Kitchie Nadal, Aiza Seguerra and Rico Blanco.

And of course, our jewel, Cecile Licad, is drawing lots of encores in the prime concert halls around the world. Have you heard Ryan Cayabyab and the San Miguel Symphony Orchestra? World-class!

The knowledge business

Take education. And I don't mean the high literacy rate of Filipinos. Nor that we are an English-speaking people. I mean education as a big global business. Just like Harvard, Northwestern, NYU and UC.A. Our own UST is older than Harvard!

The brilliant British historian, Arnold Toynbee, author of A Study of History, visited the Philippines in the early 50s and predicted that our country would play a vital role in the development of Asia. He also predicted that the Philippines would become the center of education in Asia by virtue of our English-language skills. I realized the soundness of Toynbee's prediction only when I worked in Thailand in 1970 and witnessed how the Thai students struggled in their business and science curricula by using outdated books translated into Thai decades ago. The Thais could not access the latest English books on business, science and international law.

Imagine if we made an international big business out of studies in medicine, engineering, chemistry, the humanities and the arts. Who else can excel in teaching these subjects but professors trained under an English-speaking educational system? Eh, We missed the boat on being the center of knowledge in Asia. *Sayang!*

Creative products

How about (don't laugh) shoes? Marikina is one long big shoe craftsmen's town. How come no Gucci shoes for the world's upper crust have been made in Marikina? Italy beat us to fame and fortune in the world market. And yet the dexterity of the Marikina shoemaker's hand is just as admirable and graceful as the Italians.

I remember my late journalism professor, Charlie Nivera, a world traveler journalist in the 50s. Charlie took pride in telling us how the Americans and Europeans marveled at the classy elegance of his shoes made by Besa's, the well-known shoemaker at Plaza Santa. Cruz. Too bad globalization was not in the mind of the master shoemaker, Mamerto Besa.

Filipino hands are artists' hands. They are valuable assets. Just like Cecile Licad's dancing and bouncing piano fingers. They are capable of world-class originality. For rhythm and artistry nothing beats the *barong bordaderas* of Taal, Lumban and Negros, the *mag-uumbit ng banig* from Majayjay, Luisiana and Cavinti. The fabric weavers of the Bontocs and Manobos. Even the feel for details and eye for color are pure artistry as exemplified in Narda Capuyan's *ikat* fabric.

Democracy as market positioning

What about democracy? Yes, democracy is our biggest asset. Unfortunately it is also our biggest booboo. Democracy should have been the Philippines' biggest advantage in today's criteria for globalization investment. We were the first democracy in Asia, practicing its principles for almost a century since the learning curve of the Commonwealth years up to our independence in 1946. We are still muddling through democracy, bedeviled by corruption, injustice, poverty, rebellion and terrorism—all in chronic stages.

The civilized world would have preferred a healthy business relationship with democratic countries where the rule of law prevails, and a wide middle-class exists, and a highly educated workforce is available.

A working democracy is our currency to gain the esteem and professional relationship with countries of advanced culture and economy.

A dysfunctional (bribery and dishonesty) and warped (nincompoop politicians) democracy is a shame subjected to mistrust and ridicule.

How many more generations will it take for us to be looked upon by developing countries as a point of excellence? When shall we have a decent government? Citizens who can distinguish between right and wrong? Oneness, peace and order?

And still I don't know. I've already spent a lifetime in our country.

Thinking small

Our National Artist, Nick Joaquin, who wrote the most insightful and stylish literature on Filipino history, life and culture, keenly observed that many of our failures as a people could be traced to the "heritage of smallness." Joaquin offers many proofs of this think-small culture, i.e., buying *tingi*, breaking up small towns into many *puroks* to avoid managing big sizes, the barangay social structure that is comfortable for its smallness.

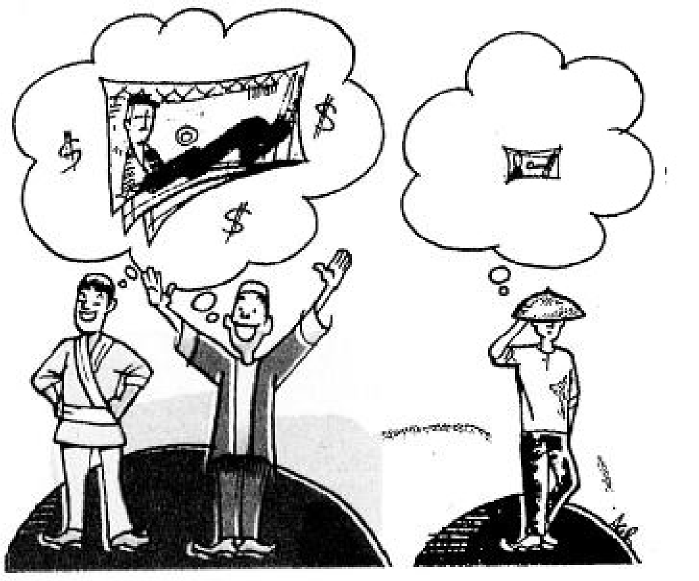
Our aversion to bigness bastardizes humility, resulting in self-deprecation popularly expressed as *hamak: ako'y hamak na probinsiyano lamang, hamak na sapatero, hamak na* barrio teacher, *hamak na musikong bumbong, anak ng isang hamak na magsasaka lamang, hamak na labandera, hamak na isang kahig, isang tuka*, etc, etc.

To contribute their share in nation building, movie Moguls Lily Monteverde and Vic del Rosario, TV tycoons Gabby Lopez, Felipe Gozon and Tony Boy Cojuangco should eliminate the word *hamak* in the dialogues of all their tearjerker movies and shows.

Think big

Fortunately, we have a few big thinkers like Tony Tan of Jollibee, who was newly honored at Cannes as the best entrepreneur in the world. Tony created Jollibee, the biggest modern Philippine brand, and exported it to the United States, Southeast Asia, China and the Middle East. Washington Sycip, who regarded (SGV) Filipino auditors and accountants, the best in Asia. Ben Chan of Bench and the youthful Gunn Roque of Kamiseta, who are about to become the czars of casual fashion in Asia. Danding Cojuangco of San Miguel, who buys big food and beverage companies in Thailand and Australia.

And last but not least, the riveting and nerve-wracking pool guts of Bata Reyes, Djanggo Bustamante, the blood and thunder fists of Manny Pacquiao. I watched these guys on TV and I felt proud of being Pinoy. You went for the big time and made it big. *(E-mail Minyong.Ordonez@publicis-manila.com)*



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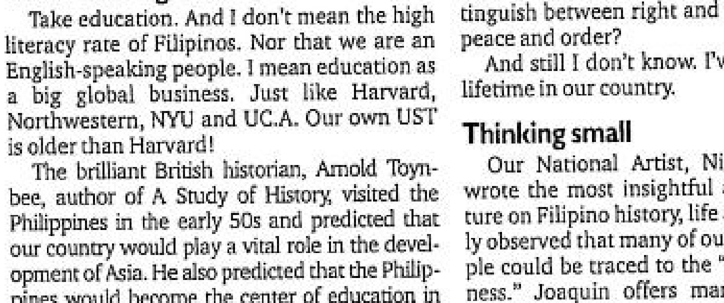

TOM and Annabel with sons (from left) Michael, Andrej and Martin

Learning mom's ...

From page B1

place where even socialites went to," she says.

That confidence enabled her and Tom, whom she described as the wind beneath her wings, to take big, bold steps in all the projects they handled.

From the United States, Wisniewski was brought back to Asia when she was tapped by Scotts Holdings of Singapore to develop luxury serviced apartments, which became The Ascott group.

That was quite a big feather in her cap as she was the first Filipino and first female on the board of directors of Scotts Holdings.

As head of its hospitality division, she opened properties in Singapore, Bangkok, Kuala Lumpur, Jakarta and London.

But while she was doing well professionally in Singapore, she had to contend with long separations from her family. The three sons were in different parts of the United States, while Tom was left behind in San Francisco.

"It was then that I realized that no amount of money or success is worth being apart from the family. It is just not worth it," she says.

That came with another realization: If she is going to work hard to operate hotels, then might as well do it in her own country, the Philippines.

Thus, Tom and Annabella came back to the Philippines again, this time for good, and set up their own consulting firm, Raintree Partners Inc., in 1998.

Their vision is to give back to the community and share their experience gained from years in running hotels and doing consulting jobs in different parts of the world.

"I put up Raintree in the same office where Scott Holdings was. I had three employees at that time, myself, a secretary and a driver," she says.

Raintree's operations has since grown to include HSAI-Raintree, the hotel management arm that takes care of Discovery Suites, Discovery Country Suites in Tagaytay and the Discovery Shores in Boracay.

Another firm, Food Parks by Raintree, developed and operates the Food Parks at the Enterprise Center, Food Odyssey LKG Tower,Food and Art Gallery at GT Tower, Marketplace at Times Plaza and M Cafe in Greenbelt.

From just three employees, the Raintree group now has 500 associates after just seven years, and still counting. It has also recently put up Raintree International, to handle regional expansion.

"Eventually, we want to be the first Filipino hotel group to go regional, because we want to instill Filipino pride in ourselves. We want to prove that Filipinos are as good, if not better, than others out there," she says.

She believes that Filipinos have the capabilities. They just need the opportunity to prove what they can do.

Raintree wants to provide that, she says, as it is a company that dares to take hotel standards to a new level, and determined to make a difference in the lives of Filipinos.

"We want to give Filipinos the opportunity to grow, just like a raintree," Wisniewski says.

Holcim Phils sponsors Masonry Skills Olympics

THE PROVINCE of Ilocos Sur is set to represent Region-1 in the masonry category of the forthcoming Philippines National Skills Competition. This after the province emerged champion in the region-wide 13th Regional Skills Competition held in Laoag City, San Nicolas and Marcos, Ilocos Norte recently. Sponsored by Holcim Philippines, the masonry skills competition attracted delegations from the provinces of Pangasinan, La Union and Ilocos Sur. The Holcim 'galing Mason Training and the 'galing Mason Olympics are part of Holcim Phils flagship programs implemented nation-wide in partnership with with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (Tesda), Philippine Constructors Association, and National Union of Builders, Constructors and Workers .

The top two 'galing Mason graduates from each of the participating provinces competed in the 2-day contest except for Pangasinan, which sent only one participant. They are namely, Genesis Galima and Arnel Gacula (Ilocos Sur); Hector Sanglay and Anthony Dacoco (La Union); and Benedict de la Cruz (Pangasinan).

The project was the construction of an 18-meter long and 2-meter high perimeter fence around the Marcos Agro-Industrial School in Ilocos Norte. The performance criteria were based on the general masonry trade test normally used by Tesda plus additional performance factors like tools handling, job attitude, speed of work, safety and housekeeping.

The province of La Union was hailed as runner-up while La Union participant Hector Sanglay also received the Gold Medal in the Individual category. Genesis Galima (Ilocos Sur) and Benedict de la Cruz (Pangasinan) each won a silver medal while Anthony Dacoco (La Union) and Arnel Gacula (Ilocos Sur) each received a consolation prize.

The 13th Regional Skills Competition was a multi-sectoral trade contest geared at advocating technical-vocational education and training as well as the development of a worldwide competitive middle-level workforce. In his speech, guest of honor Ilocos Norte Governor Ferdinand "Bongbong" Marcos Jr. welcomed the event as an opportunity to enhance the technical competencies of the youth and to develop a globally competitive workforce. Governor Marcos also encouraged Tesda and its partner agencies to assist further in promoting blue-collar job opportunities in the country.

In show of support, Holcim representatives attended the event headed by Teri Cruz - CSR coordinator - Makati Office; CSR officers Rosabell Lim and Basilia Devilleres, ; and engineer William F. L. Abenes - CSR and admin manager of Holcim La Union Plant.

INQUIRER WELCOMES L'OREAL PHILIPPINES

Fostering greater partnerships, Inquirer held a corporate luncheon meeting with the senior management of L'Oréal Philippines. Shown are (seated, from left): Inquirer's VP for advertising Pepito Olarte; L'Oréal's managing director David Ennes; Inquirer's president and CEO Sandy Prieto-Romualdez; L'Oréal's GM for administration and finance Joaquin Abola. Also present are (standing, from left) Inquirer's AVP for corplan and business development Imee Alcantara; L'Oréal's GM for professional products division Samantha Wong; L'Oréal's corporate PR manager Leica Carpo; Inquirer's AVP for strategic marketing communications Celine Madamba; Inquirer's business desk editor Tina Dumlao; Inquirer Just Shop creative director Jenni Epperson; Loréal's GM for luxury products division Vicky Encarnacion and L'Oréal's GM for human resources Tina Ampil.

PRA establishes foreign language customer desks

"THE PHILIPPINE Retirement Authority (PRA) established special language desks to assist foreign clients (applicants or present holders of retiree visa) who are not adept in speaking the English language," said Dr. Nelson P. Collantes, PRA general manager.

Through the PRA special desks, foreigners may discuss in their own native language various concerns about retirement in the Philippines.

The PRA Japanese Desk, for example, is headed by Kazutami Shiga and provides the following assistance: a) promotes effective public relations between PRA and Japanese nationals; b) assist clients on their visa application; c) advises clients on investments options; d) helps monitor other concerns of Japanese retirees in the country; e) helps bridge close coordination between PRA with the local Japanese Embassy, the Philippine consulates in Japan and local Japanese corporations.

Prior to becoming a PRA consultant, Shiga, a Japanese citizen, has earned thirty years of expertise in construction, engineering and management in Japan and in other countries, including the Philippines. He has been in the country for more than nine years and is also a PRA retiree visa holder himself.

Meanwhile, Dr. Collantes reported an increase of 31 percent in retiree visa enrollment for the initial first quarter figures of 2005 as compared to last year. This increase happened amidst after PRA implemented various "austerity measures" in line with the national government's program. "This growth showed the increased focus and dedication of this agency to attract the inflow of millions of dollars in investments from individual foreign retirees (including former Filipino citizens)", according to Dr. Collantes, "to help develop further the Philippine economy."

The Philippine Retirement Authority, a highly professional, transparent and self-sufficient government agency now on its 20th year of founding, is focused in capturing a major slice of the world's potential "growth" pie – the international retirement industry. As a government controlled corporation, it pays all its taxes faithfully and remits half of its net revenues, by way of dividends, to the National Treasury and plows back the other half to fund operation, maintenance, administrative and marketing expenditures.

Prior to managing the PRA organization, Dr. Collantes became a Batangas Vice-Governor, an Undersecretary of the Department of National Defense, an Undersecretary of the Department of Interior and Local Government, an educator, a banker and a civic leader.

In a world of melting borders where retiring and retired people seek the basics of long life, health care, peace of mind, harmony with nature, economic stability and personal fulfillment – droves of foreigners are now finding it ideal "to adopt" the Philippines as their second country through the PRA retirement program.

The foreigners cite "Nicer" reasons for coming to the Philippines – Nature adventure, Investment options, Cultural diversity, Educational and Entertainment Programs/Economic bargains, Retirement lifestyle and health care.

PRA's main product is the "easy-to-process" Special Resident Retiree Visa (SRRV) that qualifies foreigners to enjoy an unlimited, privileged stay in the country – while maintaining their citizenship.

For more details, surf www.pra.gov.ph; call (632) 848-1412 to 16; or visit Philippine Retirement Authority, 29F Citibank Tower, 8741 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City.

NEW!
Ovaltine ProActive
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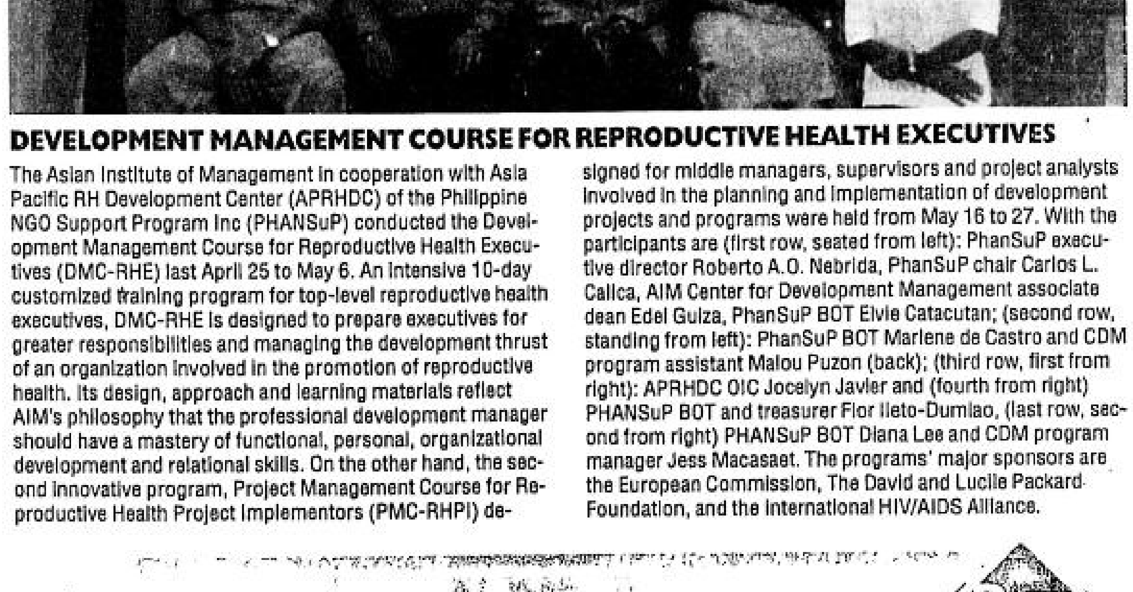
OVALTINE PROACTIVE CARAVAN JOINS GMA IN CEBU

Ovaltine ProActive joined the star-studded GMA show in Cebu as sponsors and booth exhibitors. Cebuanos came to the Ovaltine ProActive booth to have a taste of this delicious tasting drink which gives energy and strength especially to young adults who are always on the go. Already a lot of office workers and college students have taken to drinking this Ovaltine product which has proven to help them cope with stress.'Even with a hectic schedule during the day, they are able to accomplish a lot and still have time to enjoy life after work with friends and family.



DEVELOPMENT MANAGEMENT COURSE FOR REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH EXECUTIVES

The Asian Institute of Management in cooperation with Asia Pacific RH Development Center (APRHDC) of the Philippine NGO Support Program Inc (PHANSuP) conducted the Development Management Course for Reproductive Health Executives (DMC-RHE) last April 25 to May 6. An intensive 10-day customized training program for top-level reproductive health executives, DMC-RHE is designed to prepare executives for greater responsibilities and managing the development thrust of an organization involved in the promotion of reproductive health. Its design, approach and learning materials reflect AIM's philosophy that the professional development manager should have a mastery of functional, personal, organizational development and relational skills. On the other hand, the second innovative program, Project Management Course for Reproductive Health Project Implementors (PMC-RHPI) designed for middle managers, supervisors and project analysts involved in the planning and implementation of development projects and programs were held from May 16 to 27. With the participants are (first row, seated from left): PhanSuP executive director Roberto A.O. Nebrida, PhanSuP chair Carlos L. Calica, AIM Center for Development Management associate dean Edel Guiza, PhanSuP BOT Elvie Catacutan; (second row, standing from left): PhanSuP BOT Marlene de Castro and CDM program assistant Malou Puzon (back); (third row, first from right): APRHDC OIC Jocelyn Javier and (fourth from right) PHANSuP BOT and treasurer Flor Ileto-Dumlao, (last row, second from right) PHANSuP BOT Diana Lee and CDM program manager Jess Macasaet. The programs' major sponsors are the European Commission, The David and Lucile Packard Foundation, and the International HIV/AIDS Alliance.

The Star Wars saga continues at Jollibee

JOLLIBEE brings back the force with Star Wars Revenge of the Sith memorabilia that comes with every order of a Jollibee Kids Meal from now until May 31. Collect all four Star Wars premium items, perfect for kids' back-to-school needs. If you and your kids are light saber fans, you will surely get a thrill out of the Darth Vader Pen that you can use to write or draw your space age fantasies. Pull out the base to activate Vader's awesome light saber. Sharpen your mind, and your pencils, too, with the Obi-Wan Sharpener. Twist and turn the Jedi Knight for some pencil sharpening action. To measure infinity, there's the Yoda Tape Measure. Pull out the base to reveal a tape measure that you can pull to see Yoda in his saber fighting form. And to help you take down your Jedi notes, there's the C3PO Memo Holder. Slide the base to pull out authentic Star Wars sheets and scribble away. Treat your kids to an intergalactic adventure and celebrate George Lucas' latest epic installment by ordering a Jollibee Kids Meal.

CALENERGY DONATES COMPUTER LABORATORY

CalEnergy vice president and general counsel Linda B. Castillo (right) receives the Certificate of Recognition from DepEd official Dr. Yolanda Uljano, Assistant National Director of the Bureau of Elementary Education. DepEd acknowledges the assistance of CalEnergy in advancing information technology in Ormoc City through the company's computer laboratory donation.

RP aims for gold in Special Olympic Games

SPECIAL Olympics Philippines' 17-member delegation to the 6th Special Olympics Singapore National (Invitational) Games 2005 on June 2 to 7 are determined to surpass their previous medal harvest and bring home more gold in the bowling events as well as in Bocce, a relatively new outdoor lawn bowling-like game in the World Games, where we are participating for the first time. The Singapore Invitational is a prelude to the 2007 World Special Olympic Summer Games to be held in Shanghai, China.

Alex Babst, president of the Special Olympics Philippines (SOP) identified Teacher-Mom's Roxanne Ng, a young adult with autism, who won 3 gold medals in the bowling individual, doubles and team events in last 2003 World Special Olympics Summer Games held in Dublin Ireland, as well as upcoming national medalist Anton Silos to lead our 14-special athletes and 5-coach delegation to victory in Singapore.

Bowling Team Philippines is headed by coach Cristina Gacuma of Teacher-Mom, and assisted by Suzette Babst. Other members of the team include Stephanie Babst, Mark David Inductivo, Jonathan Zulueta, Alfred Abueg, Lawrence Cruz and Roberto Jesus Clariño.

The Bocce Team is coached by Irene Soriano and includes Margaret Babst, Ken Lawrence Yu, Ana Luisa Se and Neil Sebastian. Stephen Sia heads the delegation, assisted by Manny Inductivo.

Team Philippines special athletes are undergoing fitness and gym training sessions sponsored by Red Corner Fitness and Boxing Club at the Hotel Intercontinental Manila and Power Bowl at the Power Plant, Rockwell, Makati City. Other sponsors include Reebok, Burlington socks, Penshoppe and The Creative Response Co Inc.

Special Olympics Philippines is a non-profit humanitarian organization created to help intellectually challenged youths to develop their talents to the optimum by creating myriad opportunities for participation in athletic competitions here and abroad.

Special Olympics promotes tolerance and equality epitomizing the triumph of the human spirit over disabilities, as exemplified by its slogan: "Let me win, but if i cannot win, let me be brave in the attempt."

For more information or support, contact Alex Babst at 926-6946 or email at special_olympics@yahoo.com, or Cristy Gacuma at Teacher-Mom, 899-3678.

BITS & Clips

2005 REB exam set

THE BUREAU of Trade Regulation and Consumer Protection (BTRCP) of the Department of Trade and Industry is all set for the next licensure examination slated today in Quezon City, Lucena, San Fernando Pampanga, Baguio, Tugegarao City. Another test is set on Nov. 27 in Quezon City, San Fernando La Union, Angeles, Tacloban, Batangas, Cebu, Davao, Legaspi, Iloilo, Cagayan De Oro City for real estate brokers. While real estate appraisers have to choose from Quezon City, Cebu and Davao to take the exam. Interested applicants may call BTRCP at 7510-384 local 2228, or their National Realty Association.

Workshop on agricultural practices

AS THE DEPARTMENT of Agriculture (DA) celebrates the "Farmers and Fisherfolks' Month" this May, the Development Academy of the Philippines (DAP) will conduct a 2-day "Orientation-Workshop on Good Agricultural Practices (GAP) and Agricultural and Fisheries Product Standards (AFPS)" on May 31 and June 1, respectively with the theme "Mag-GAPAS Tayo!". The opening day, in collaboration with the Bureau of Agricultural and Fisheries Product Standards (DA-BAFPS), will be held at the Apacible Conference Room of the National Agricultural and Fisheries Council (NAFC) in Quezon City and will start at 8:30 a.m. A public offering will also be conducted on June 1 targeting the private entrepreneurs, farmers, fisherfolk, agribusiness owners and the general public as participants. It will be held at the Executive Lounge in DAP, Pasig City, from 8:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. Registration fee is P1,200 per participant which will cover the meals and snacks for one day, and other orientation materials. For inquiries, contact DAP-CQC at 631-2163 or 631-0921 loc. 129. Look for Christian Eparwa or Rex Fabellon.

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"I could see that the Philippine Real Estate market had not yet been embraced the Internet and that eventually, like Britain, Europe and America the Internet would become the first place to visit when buying or selling a property. I wanted Asian Homes to have a reputation of displaying the highest quality of property, pictures and descriptions possible, this we have now achieved. My next objective is that, irregardless of the type of property being sold or bought, be it a small lot, a large house or a beach resort, the name that comes to mind first is Asian Homes"

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Notice of Search for Southern Leyte State University Presidency Sogod, Southern Leyte

Minimum Personal Qualifications:

1. Must be a citizen of the Philippines
2. A holder of a Doctorate Degree.
3. Must have a proven track record as top administrator (at least Deanship level), whether in private or public, for at least a period of five (5) years.
4. Must be of good moral character and has no record of criminal, civil and/or administrative conviction.
5. Preferably not more than sixty (60) years old on the date of application.

Note: Qualified applicants are requested to submit the following:

1. Formal Application Letter addressed to:

   Honorable Chairman of the Board of Regents
   Southern Leyte State University
   Sogod, Southern Leyte
   Attention: **The Secretariat**
   Search Committee for Presidency

2. Detailed Curriculum Vitaé and authenticated supporting documents
3. Applicant's Proposed Vision, Mission and Executive Summary of the Development Plan for the university
4. Neuro-psychiatric Examination Result accomplished by any government physician of an accredited health institution (must be submitted sealed directly to the Secretariat)
5. Medical Certificate of Physical Fitness from a government physician
6. Clearance Certificates from the following:
   a. Ombudsman
   b. Sandiganbayan
   c. Civil Service Commission
   d. National Bureau of Investigation

Important: Interested applicants must send the above-mentioned documentary requirements in seven (7) sets/copies to the Search Committee through the Secretariat on or before **JULY 22, 2005.**

1. **MS. MABEL R. CALVA**
   Board Secretary
   Southern Leyte State University
   Sogod Southern Leyte 6606
2. **DR. MARIA RITA C. ORTIZ**
   Officer In-Charge
   Commission on Higher Education
   Regional Office No. VIII
   Tacloban City 6500
3. **JEANETTE B. LUMAPAS**
   Office of Commissioner Carlito S. Puno
   Commission on Higher Education
   DAP Building, Ortigas Center,
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NOTICE OF VACANT POSITIONS

STARCM is a special Project of the Government of the Philippines funded by the European Union and implemented by the Department of Land Reform (DLR). The Project provides support for the development of agrarian reform communities in the provinces of Cotabato, Sultan Kudarat, Lanao del Norte and Lanao del Sur. The Project is seeking to fill the following positions in Kidapawan City:

- **BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST**
  Must have a Masters degree in business administration, economics, enterprise development or a closely related discipline. He/she will have at least five (5) years commercial experience of small businesses and be familiar with the preparation of financial projections and marketing plans. S/he must have a clear understanding of business principles and should have applied them to small and /or medium sized enterprises. Experience with successful cooperative business ventures will be a distinct advantage.
- **SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ADVISOR**
  Must have a bachelor's degree in applied social sciences, preferably in Social Work, Nursing, Public Health and Administration, Rural Sociology, or Community Development. A related MS degree will be an advantage. He/she will have at least five (5) years experience with the provision of social services, community organising and/or rural development work in coordination with LGUs. Familiarity with provisions of the Local Government Code and the Health Sector Reform Agenda is required.
- **MATERIALS ENGINEER**
  Licensed Civil Engineer and have passed the DPWH Accreditation Examination for Materials Engineer. Have at least 3 years proven experience in conducting laboratory and field testing relative to the implementation of sub-projects such as potable water supplies, communal irrigation projects, community facilities and feeder roads/bridges.

The specialist must be physically fit and prepared to undertake fieldwork throughout Central Mindanao. S/he must be fluent in English and highly proficient with Microsoft Office software. Only shortlisted applicants will be notified. Deadline for the submission of applications is on 15 JUNE 2005.

(Sgd.) GLYNN P. BAKER
European Co-Director

(Sgd.) OSCAR A. MAMA
National Project Director

An application letter, including a resume detailing duties, responsibilities and relevant experience, and copy of transcript of records should be submited to:

The Project Co-Directors
STARCM Project Management Office
3/F ROMA Building, Quezon Boulevard
9400 Kidapawan City

DLR

STARCM is a special project of Department of Agrarian Reform supported by the Government of the Philippines and European Union

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Republic of the Philippines
Office of the President
Metro Manila Development Authority
PASIG RIVER REHABILITATION COMMISSION

INVITATION FOR BIDS

Project *Pasig River Environmental Management and Rehabilitation Sector Development Program (PAREMAR)*
Loan No *Asian Development Bank (ADB) Loan No. 1746-PHI*
Description of Works : **Design, site development and construction of socialized housing units in Abella -Joriz and San Miguel, Mandaluyong City**

1. The Government of the Philippines (GOP) has received a loan from the ADB toward the cost of PAREMAR and it intends to apply part of the proceeds of this loan, together with the GOP counterpart funds, to payments under the Contracts for San Miguel URA and Abella-Joriz URA in Mandaluyong City
2. The Pasig River Rehabilitation Commission (PRRC) as the executing agency now invites sealed Bids from eligible Bidders for the following contract packages:

Contract Package	Design, Site Development and Construction of 54 Socialized Housing Units in Abella-Joriz URA	Design, Site Development and Construction of 96 Socialized Housing Units in San Miguel URA
Contract No.	URA-MAN-01	URA-MAN-02
Location	Abella Compound, Brgy. Mabini J.P. Rizal, Mandaluyong City	San Miguel Street, Brgy. Plainview, Mandaluyong City
Contract Duration	240 Calendar Days	300 Calendar Days
Project Description	Design, site development and construction of 54 socialized housing units, which include the following items of work: architectural works, structural works, electrical works, carpentry works, painting works, sanitary/plumbing works, water supply, site work, site improvement and drainage work, among others.	Design, site development and construction of 96 socialized housing units, which include the following items of work: architectural works, structural works, electrical works, carpentry works, painting works, sanitary/plumbing works, water supply, site work, site improvement and drainage work, among others.

3 Proposals will be accepted from licensed private developers, GOP enterprises the majority of which is publicly-owned including non-government organizations (NGOs) with demonstrated track record in the development of sustainable communities including social preparation, design and construction of socialized/low-cost housing units employing community-participation and post-relocation capability-building activities. Licensed private developers and NGOs could submit proposals either as individual bidders, individual bidders with subcontractors or as joint ventures. Interested Bidders shall secure the Bid Documents and submit bids as follows:

Activity		Date	Venue
Securing of (a) Eligibility Checklist or (b) submission of Letter of Intent and purchase of complete set of Bid Documents upon payment of a non-refundable fee of Php 10,500.00		From June 13 to 17 2005	PRRC, 2F MWSS Engineering Bldg. Katipunan Road, Old Balara, Quezon City
Securing of additional eligibility information (if any) and inspection of Bidding Documents		From June 13 to 17 2005	
Site Inspection	Abella-Joriz URA	June 30, 2005/9:00 a.m.	Abella Compound, Mandaluyong City
	San Miguel URA	June 30, 2005/1:00 p.m.	San Miguel St. Brgy. Plainview, Mandaluyong City
Pre-Bid Conference	Abella-Joriz URA	July 01, 2005/10:00 a.m.	Mandaluyong LGU City Engineers Office, Maysilo Circle, Mandaluyong City
	San Miguel URA		
Deadline for submission of Bids	Abella-Joriz URA	July 29, 2005/10:00 a.m.	
	San Miguel URA	Aug. 01, 2005 / 10:00 a.m.	
Opening of Bids	Abella-Joriz URA	July 29, 2005 / 10:30 a.m.	
	San Miguel URA	Aug. 01, 2005 / 10:30 a.m.	

4. The LGU of Mandaluyong shall be the implementing agency of the Project.
5. Bidding (Eligibility Check/Prequalification, Bid Evaluation and Award of Contract) shall be conducted on the basis of local competitive bidding among interested Bidders from ADB eligible source countries as defined under the *"Guidelines for Procurement by the Asian Development Bank and its Borrowers"* pursuant to the Implementing Rules and Regulations of R.A. No. 9184 and ADB Guidelines for the Procurement of Civil Works as standardized under the harmonized ADB-GOP Procurement of Works bid documents.
6. The Bids and Awards Committee (BAC) reserves the right to accept or reject any Bid and to annul the bidding process and reject all Bids at anytime prior to Contract award, without thereby incurring any liability to the affected Bidder or Bidders

(Sgd.) **BINGLE H.B. GUTIERREZ**
Executive Director

(Sgd.) **NEPTALI M. GONZALES II**
Mayor, Mandaluyong City

(PDI - May 22 & 29, 2005)

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Multi-generation estate and succession planning

WARREN Buffet, the world's greatest investor, could not have said it any better: "Business management can be viewed as a three-act play—the dream, the execution, and the passing of the baton." All three stages are vital to becoming a star player in the arena of business; however, it is the third act that successful business owners and enterprises should concern themselves with, not only for posterity's sake but to make sure that the wealth they painstakingly built up does not take a curtain call. Considering the growth in the number of individual and family-owned businesses in the country, and the increasing frequency in the passing of the baton, there is a pressing need for a team of specialists whose plans can serve as lampposts for family members after the death of the business founder. Such a team, which includes tax lawyers, accountants, and organizational psychologists, can present the family a range of options aimed at retaining control and security, ensuring liquidity, and reducing taxes. Hence, families will see the value in shifting from being a taxpayer to a taxsaver. "Tax liabilities may be reduced by proper estate and succession planning," says lawyer Ruben Balane, a law professor and author of several books on inheritance and succession. "Such planning is also aimed at preventing, or minimizing, possible squabbling among heirs."

For those interested in learning successful succession strategies from the experts, the Center for Global Best Practices will again be holding the seminar, "Multi-Generation Estate and Succession Planning" on Friday, June 3 at the AIM Conference Center in Makati City. The seminar features a formidable panel of speakers who are luminaries in their respective fields: lawyer Ruben Balane, the country's foremost authority in the area of wills and succession; lawyer Serafin Salvador, Jr., one of the country's leading tax practitioners; Lee Woon Shiu, Director – ING Asia Private Bank; Professor Marivi Quintos-Gonzales, program director of the Managing Family Corporation Programs in AIM; and professor Francisco Roman, Jr., executive director of AIM Hill's Center for Governance and a core faculty member of AIM specializing in Asian family corporations. For details about the seminar, please call 842-7148 or 59, 0917-9295432, or email henry@cgbp.org.

PRISM
PRIVATE SECTOR MOBILIZATION FOR FAMILY PLANNING

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

The Private Sector Mobilization for Family Planning (PRISM), a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under contract number 492-C-00-04-00036-00 and implemented by a consortium led by Chemonics International, Inc. is soliciting offers for:

Launching of Medium/Low-Priced Hormonal Contraceptive Brands in the Philippines

Background

The PRISM Project supports USAID/Philippines' Strategic Objective 3, desired family size and improved health sustainably achieved, focusing on three components: 1) increased workplace support for family planning (FP) services and referrals, 2) establishment of viable, mass market brands of hormonal contraceptives, and 3) increased business value of FP among private practice providers.

The Market Development Component (Component 2) of the project is intended to increase recognition of business opportunities in the hormonal FP commodities market in the Philippines and to motivate businesses to take advantage of those opportunities.

This solicitation for private sector partners is directly in response to the US Government's Global Development Alliance (GDA) initiative, which seeks to encourage innovative development, economic growth, and social well-being between the private and public sectors. In this case, PRISM is the public sector partner, and is willing to co-invest with US or Filipino private sector partners up to 50 percent of the costs involved in launching new hormonal contraceptives in the low/medium-price range. As a base to determine the investment breakdown, offerors' overall product launch budgets should include 100 percent of expected costs.

Qualification Requirements

- Must be a Philippine – based Pharmaceutical Company, distributing company, marketing firm, or NGO with capability of marketing and distribution of hormonal contraceptive products, duly registered under the Security and Exchange Commission and majority owned by Filipino or U.S. citizens;
- Must have a proven track record in pharmaceutical marketing distribution here in the Philippines or in other countries;
- Must have a team of qualified personnel to manage and execute the project and have the resources to launch, distribute and market the product;
- Must be in operation for the past 5 years; and
- Must have a positive net worth for 2004

For a copy of the Request for Proposal, please get in touch with Ms. Vivien S. Cabanban, Subcontract Specialist at (02) 490-0060 to 65 or 635-2397. You may also email: contracts@prism.org.ph.

The deadline for submission of proposals is on or before 11:00 A.M, June 27, 2005.

The Pre-Bid Conference is scheduled on June 7, 2005 from 10:00 am to 12:00 noon at the PRISM Office, Units 23A&B, 23rd Floor, Wynsum Corporate Plaza, 22 F. Ortigas Jr. Road, Ortigas Center, Pasig City.

Republic of the Philippines
SENATE
Pasay City

INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Senate of the Philippines invites all G-EPS registered bidders/contractors to apply for eligibility and to bid for the following:

1.	Name of Project	: Renovation, construction, and finishing works of the Senate Lounge
2.	Location	: 2nd Floor, Senate of the Philippines, GSIS Building, Pasay City
3.	Approved Budget	: Php 2 Million
4.	Date of Completion	: July 20, 2005
5.	Viewing of the area	: anytime from Monday - Thursday, between 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. (c/o Mr. Joel Lopido, tel. no. 552-6601 local 6125)
6.	Pre-bidding Conference	: June 2, 2005, 2:00 p.m.

The bid documents shall be available to interested contractors at the BAC Secretariat Office, 4/F Senate of the Philippines, GSIS Building, Roxas Boulevard, Pasay City starting May 30, 2005 upon payment of a non-refundable fee in the amount of P300.00. Also, bid bulletins on the schedules of opening of bids and other information will be sent through fax.

All particulars relative to the eligibility, bid evaluation, and award of contract shall be governed by the provisions of R.A. 9184 otherwise known as the Government Procurement Reform Act.

This invitation is also advertised with the Government Electronic Procurement System (G-EPS) at www.procurementservice.org.

For more information, please call the BAC Secretariat Office at telefax no. 552-6601 local 1602 (c/o Rose de Castro or Jo Costo).

THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES RESERVES THE RIGHT TO REVIEW ALL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS, REJECT ANY OR ALL BIDS, WAIVE ANY DEFECTS CONTAINED THEREIN AND ACCEPT THE OFFER MOST ADVANTAGEOUS TO THE GOVERNMENT, AND THE RIGHT TO CONFISCATE THE BID BOND AND/OR PURSUE APPROPRIATE LEGAL ACTION SHOULD THE WINNING BIDDER REFUSE TO ACCEPT THE AWARD.

FURTHER, THE SENATE OF THE PHILIPPINES ASSUMES NO OBLIGATION WHATSOEVER TO COMPENSATE OR INDEMNIFY THE BIDDER FOR ANY EXPENSE OR LOSS THAT THEY MAY INCUR IN PARTICIPATING IN THIS UNDERTAKING NOR DOES IT GUARANTEE THAT AN AWARD WILL BE MADE.

(Sgd.) **ATTY. ARNEL JOSE S. BAÑAS**
Chairman, Bids and Awards Committee

(PDI - May 28 & 29, 2005)

Republic of the Philippines
Department of Education (DepEd)
SECONDARY EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT AND IMPROVEMENT PROJECT (SEDIP)
National Project Management Office (NPMO)
5th Floor, Bonifacio Building, DepEd Complex, Meralco Ave., Pasig City
Telephone Nos. 635-98-22; 631-0673; Telefax No. 635-9828

DepED

INVITATION TO BID

The Republic of the Philippines through the Department of Education is a recipient of an Official Development Assistance (ODA) loan from the Japan Bank for International Cooperation (JBIC) in the amount of JPY 7.210 million to finance the Secondary Education Development and Improvement Project (SEDIP). It is intended that part of the proceeds of the loan will be utilized for eligible expenditures for the new construction of the different school buildings in the province of Negros Oriental as follows:

Project Description	School	Location
Two-storey, 6 – classroom building with toilet and Two-storey, 4 – classroom building with toilet	Bayawan City NHS-Main	Bayawan City
Single-storey, 3 – classroom building with toilet	Sibulan NHS, San Antonio Annex	Sibulan
Two-storey, 4 – classroom building and a School Toilet	Valencia NHS	Valencia
Single-storey, Science Laboratory Building and a School Toilet	Pulangbato NHS	Valencia

JBIC requires that bidders and contractors as well as the DepED, under contracts funded with JBIC ODA loans, observe the highest standard of ethics during the procurement and execution of such contract. In pursuance of this, JBIC: (i) will reject a proposal for award if it determines that the bidder recommended for award has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for the contract in question; and (i) will recognize a contractor as ineligible , for a stated period of time, to be awarded a contract funded with JBIC ODA loans if it, at any time, determines that the contractor has engaged in corrupt or fraudulent practices in competing for or in executing another contract financed by JBIC ODA loans or other Japanese ODA.

Bidding is open to all Philippine Contractors Accreditation Board (PCAB) registered contractors of joint venture contractors with valid license, general building in category and eligible to enter into a contract based on award. Schedules of issuance of bidding documents, pre-bid conference and opening of bids are as follows:

Particulars	Bayawan City	Sibulan	Valencia
Issuance of Documents	Date: June 6-13, 2005 Place: BAC Office	June 6-13, 2005 BAC Office	June 6-13, 2005 BAC Office
Pre-bid Conference	Date: June 17, 2005 Place: Municipal Hall Time: 10:00 a.m.	June 20, 2005 Municipal Hall 10:00 a.m.	June 21, 2005 Municipal Hall 10:00 a.m.
Opening of Bids	Date: June 28, 2005 Place: BAC Office Time: 10:00 a.m.	June 29, 2005 BAC Office 10:00 a.m.	June 30, 2005 BAC Office 10:00 a.m.

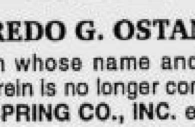
The complete set of bidding documents may be purchased by interested eligible bidders upon submission of a Letter of Intent to the Office of the BAC Chairman and payment of a non-refundable fee of P2,000.00 to the Cashier's Office.

Submission of bids together with all the documents required in the bid documents must be delivered to the aforesaid venue and dates. All bids will be opened immediately thereafter in the presence of all bidders or their legally authorized representatives.

(Sgd.) **JUAN MIGUEL M. LUZ**
Undersecretary for Administration and Finance

(PDI - May 29 & June 5, 2005)

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC



ALFREDO G. OSTANI

The person whose name and photo appears herein is no longer connected with **DSK SPRING CO., INC.** effective **May 25, 2005.** Any transaction entered into by this person for and in behalf of DSK will not be honored by the company.

(PDI-May 29, 2005)

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Dr. FERNANDO A. JOSE Jr.

of Antipolo City

Feb. 26, 1917 – May 19, 2005
Died at Northridge CA, USA

His loving wife Adring Sahagun (†); children Rolly & Gloria, Roger (†) & Anita (†), Linda & Noli, Jerry & Marilou, Grace & Ding and his grandchildren and great grandchildren, request the pious readers in celebrating his passage into a new life with Christ.

His remains lie in state at Loyola Guadalupe. Interment will be on Tuesday, May 31, 2005 at Our Lady of Peace Memorial Park, Antipolo City after the 2 p.m. Mass at the Antipolo Cathedral.

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❷ Any identification document (I.D.)

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DEATH ANNOUNCEMENT
MESSAGE OF THANKS
DEATH ANNIVERSARY
REQUIEMS
FREE OBIT DESIGN

PAUL Q. CHOY

August 26, 1928 – May 26, 2005

His bereaved children Christine, Carol, Ruby C. Young, Vina, Catherine C. Mina & Jacqueline C. Lee; nieces & nephew & all other relatives request the pious reader to pray for the eternal repose of his soul. His remains will be cremated. There will be a vigil over his ashes in Oceanside California.

PAZ "Pacing" LACSON - MANGUBAT BRION

Peacefully joined the Lord
on May 26, 2005 at the age of 86.

Her bereaved children and children-in-law **Oscar & Baby Brion, Loida & Joe Gomez, Carlo & Minnie Brion, Aleli & Neri Villaceran, Evie & Najie Gapangada, May & Linton Abrenica, Arnel & Irene Brion, Larry & Lorie Brion**; grandchildren, sister **Patrocinio M. Saulog**, brother **Liborio L. Mangubat**, and all relatives and friends request the pious readers to pray for the eternal repose of her soul.

Her remains lie in state at the Resurrection Chapel, San Pablo Cathedral, San Pablo City.

Interment is on June 2, 2005 at San Gabriel Memorial Park, San Pablo City, after the 9:00 a.m. Mass at the Resurrection Chapel.

ALBERTO TALAVERA TALENS

April 16, 1916 – May 26, 2005

Died at the age of 89.

His loving children **Hermecita & Phil, Edilberto, Thelma, Nestor & Angel, Orlino, Alberto Jr. & Ruby, Moises**; his loving grandchildren and great grandchildren request the readers to pray for his soul.

His body lies at Loyola Memorial Chapel, Sucat, Parañaque.

Interment will be on June 2, 2005 at the Manila Memorial Park at 9 a.m. after the 8 a.m, Mass.

Message of Thanks

† Vicente Jose Yap Velez M.D.

FPCP, FPCC, FACP

Today, May 30, 2005, is Enteng's 40th day since that fateful day, April 20, 2005, when Enteng joined our Lord.

Enteng's wife, Mayhu, and their children, VJ and Giselle, Gil B, and Nina with Paco together with his brothers and sisters Evalynne and Joseph Braun, Tito and Marina, Joy, and Apol and Vilma, and other relatives would like to thank everyone who prayed with us, condoled with us, supported us in our time of sadness.

Masses for Enteng will be offered today at the following churches:

Carmelite Monastery .... 6:00 a.m.
Cagayan de Oro City
Maria Reyna Chapel .... 6:00 a.m.
Maria Reyna Hospital, Cagayan de Oro City
St. Agustine's Cathedral .... 12 noon
Cagayan de Oro Cathedral, Cagayan de Oro City
Immaculate Conception Chapel .... 5:30 p.m.
Xavier University, Cagayan de Oro City
Church of the Child Jesus .... 6:30 p.m.
BF Homes, Phase III, Parañaque City

Benedict, when the storm rages
around me,
and I can hold on no more,
When the waves of tear engulf me
and I am weary,
battered and sore,
take me then and steer me
storm-tossed, broken and afraid,
into the arms of your safe harbour
safely home.

prayer to st. benedict – fr. dennis ward o.s.b.

DR. DIOSCORO E. ABJELINA

ROSARIO, BATANGAS

December 14, 1931 – May 24, 2005

Now peacefully rests in the Grace and Goodness of our Lord...

[Married to **FLORDELIZA T. ABJELINA** (†)]

He is survived by his loving children and grandchildren:

Dr. NOREEN & Dr. JOJO PASCUAL	: **Vin, Deden, Tricia**
BOY & Dr. CECILE ABJELINA	: **Deannielle, Mito, Anton**
Dr. KENNETH & Dr. ANGIE ABJELINA	: **Kyle, Kobe**
JEANNETH & JUN BRIONES	: **Lizzie**

His remains lie in state at their residence at Kumintang Ibaba, Batangas City.

Interment will be at Eternal Garden, Batangas City on Tuesday, May 31, 2005 after the 3:00 p.m. Mass at St. Mary Euphrasia.

The family is requesting for your prayers for the eternal repose of his soul.

"Even when I walk through a dark valley,
I feel no harm. For you are at my side, your rod
and staff give me courage..."
Psalm 23:4

CLASSIFIEDS

NOTICE TO THE PUBLIC

MA. FLORINDA "LORIE" O. SAMIA

The public is hereby informed that **MA. FLORINDA "LORIE" O. SAMIA**, the former Building Administrator of **CEDAR MANSION II COND CORP.**, whose picture appears above has been terminated for cause and is no longer connected with CEDAR MANSION II COND CORP., since May 17, 2005.

Any transaction entered into by her, or which she may enter into from May 17, 2005 onward shall not be honored by the corporation.

(PDI–May 29, 2005)

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SUGAR REGULATORY ADMINISTRATION
North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City
P.O. Box 70, U.P. Diliman, Quezon City
TIN 000-784-336-000

INVITATION TO BID

Sealed Bids will be accepted and thereafter opened on June 23, 2005 at the time set hereunder, at the Training Room, Main Building, Sugar Regulatory Administration (SRA), North Avenue, Diliman, Quezon City, for the sale of the following SRA lots.

A. SRA Commercial Lots at Sugartowne, Batasan Hills, Q.C.

LOCATION	TCT	LOT AREA	COST/SQ.M.	MINIMUM SELLING PRICE
Blk 5, Lot 12	238389	380 sqm.	P 6,500.00	P 2,470,000.00
Blk 29, Lot 1	238385	380 sqm.	6,500.00	2,470,000.00
Blk 15, Lot 38	133294	779 sqm.	6,000.00	4,674,000.00
Blk 33	133888	2,499 sqm.	6,000.00	14,994,000.00
		4,038 sqm.		P 24,608,000.00

B. Lot No. 2293-A in front of Villa Del Sol at Barangay Magliman, San Fernando, Pampanga:

LOCATION	TCT	LOT AREA	COST/SQ.M.	MINIMUM SELLING PRICE
Lot No. 2293-A	96098-R	20,000 sqm.	P500.00	P10,000,000.00

Bid forms including the Rules and Regulations and other documents pertinent to the sale of lots at P1,000.00 per bid per individual lot shall be issued by the Secretariat, SRA Disposal Committee starting June 13, 2005.

Schedule of Activities	Date of Activity
Issuance of Letter of Intent and Pre-qualification Forms	May 31 – June 8, 2005
Deadline for the submission of Letter of Intent and Pre-qualification Requirements	June 9, 2005
Issuance of Bid Forms and the Rules and Regulations on the sale of lots	June 13, 2005
Pre-Bid Conference Sale of Sugartowne Commercial Lots and Magliman, San Fernando Lot	June 16, 2005 at 9:00 AM
Public Bidding Sale of Sugartowne Commercial Lots and Magliman, San Fernando Lot	June 23, 2005 at 9:00 AM

The purpose of the Pre-Bidding conference is to address issues regarding the disposal of the lots at the SRA, Training Room, North Avenue Diliman, Q.C.

All bids must be accompanied by a deposit either in cash or Manager's/Cashier's check equivalent to 10% of the total bid price.

For inquiries, please call
The Disposal Committee Secretariat • Tel. No. 929-6837

The SRA reserves the right to reject any or all bids, to waive any formality or defect therein, and to accept any or all offers that may be considered most advantageous to the SRA.

(Sgd.) AIDA F. IGNACIO
Chairperson, Disposal Committee

(PDI – May 28, 29 & 30, 2005)

PRIVATIZATION AND MANAGEMENT OFFICE
INVITATION TO APPLY FOR ELIGIBILITY AND TO BID

The Privatization and Management Office (PMO) invites interested parties to apply for eligibility and, if found eligible, to Bid for the hiring of a FINANCIAL ADVISOR for the privatization of Radio Philippines Network, Inc. (RPN).

Interested parties may secure the Eligibility and Bid Documents from the Marketing Department, 5th Floor, PMO Building, 104 Gamboa St., Legaspi Village, Makati City, upon payment of a non-refundable fee of P1,000.00.

The schedule of activities is as follows:

Particular	Date	Time
Issuance of Eligibility and to Bid Documents	May 30, 2005	8:30 a.m.
Deadline for Submission of Eligibility Documents	June 7, 2005	5:30 p.m.
Opening and Submission of Bids	June 27, 2005	10:00 a.m.

Only Eligible/Pre-qualified parties can participate in the Bidding on June 27, 2005, to be held at 6th Floor, PMO Conference Room.

For details, please contact Ms. Melinda B. Cortez of the PMO Marketing Department at telephone numbers 892-21-45 or 818-47-33.

The PMO reserves the right to reject any or all bids without offering any reason, waive any defect therein and make an award to the bidder whose proposal is most advantageous to the PMO. The PMO likewise assumes no obligation for whatever losses that may be incurred by the bidders in the preparation of the bids, nor does it guarantee that the award shall be made.

(PDI–May 28, 29 & 30, 2005)

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1. 2-Sty. H&L w/ swimming pool #115 Banaba St./LA-816,FA-535 (W/ Motion for Reconsideration)	19,000,000
LAS PINAS – BF Resort Vill.	**MIN BID**
2. 2-Sty. T'Hse/ Unit-11, BFCarnibal Park St.nr E. Yuhico St. Union Villas T'Hms., Talon-2 L.A.-85 50 / F.A.-128	2,301,000
MAKATI CITY	**MIN BID**
3. Condo Unit-2544,4/F,Bldg-25 Guadalupe Mansion,JP.Rzl Extn. Near MRT-Guadalupe / FA-67 20	1,500,000
Brgy. Singkamas beside Mktl. Coliseum	
4. *L-1 B-23/LA-282,Maskardo St	3,600,000
5. *L-2 B-23/LA-315,Maskardo St * With Existing Case	4,023,000
Kingswood Twr.- P. Tamo cor. V. Cruz	
6. Condo -P'hse Unit-P2F,Twr-B 28th & 29th flrs. / F.A.- 154	7,207,200
7. Condo.-P'hse Unit-P3F,Twr-B 26th & 27th flrs / F.A.- 154	7,207,200
QUEZON CITY	**MIN BID**
8. 2-Sty H&L / # 10 Molave Dr-1 Nagkaisang Nayon, N'iches (via Gen Luis & Damong Malit St.) LA-400 / FA-81 * W/ Lis Pendens	1,200,000
9. H&L/# 269 M Aquino St. Banlat Rd,T.Sora.LA-120 / FA-191 (Nr. NPC Subd) *W/ Lis Pendens	1,700,000
PASIG CITY – Ortigas Cntr.	**MIN BID**
10. Condo.-4BR, 5TB, Maid's Rm.-Pkng /Unit-2802 AIC Gold Twr. Emerald Ave / FA-187 (nr. Robinsons)	6,900,000
BULACAN – Plaridel	**MIN BID**
Brgy. Lalangan - Plaridel Heights	
11. Corner, Lot-2 Blk-47, LA-355	1,242,500
12. Corner, Lot-13 Blk-7, LA-404	1,414,000
13. Corner, Lot-2 Blk-38, LA.-411	1,438,500
14. Inner, Lot- 25 Blk-8, LA.-350	1,155,000
BULACAN – Sta. Maria	**MIN BID**
Brgy.Guyong, Sunrays Vill.-beside Delfi	
15. Lot - 80 Blk. - 5 / L.A. - 40	60,000
BULACAN - MALOLOS	**MIN BID**
16. H&L / Lot 2 & 3 Blk-17,Desta Ave cor. 1st St., Desta Hms Brgy. Atlag. LA-515/FA-293.84 (near Sto. Crislo Diversion Rd.)	3,100,000
VALENZUELA – Nr. Malinta Exit	**MIN BID**
17. Lot / Lot-551-A-2-A-3, Pineda Compd, Bonifacio St./LA-1,114	2,241,000
18. 3-Sty Bldg/ Lot-894-A-3,Manano Laurel Drive Paso De Blas (near Fortune Village-4) LA-463 / FA-809 * W/ Lis Pendens	5,300,000
CALOOCAN – Gracepark	**MIN BID**
19. Lot-25 & 26 Blk.-31. 2nd St LA-388 60- In bet. 3rd & 4th Ave	4,300,000
MALABON- Brgy. Dampalit	**MIN BID**
North Merville Park-I Subd. (*w/ occupants)	
20. *L-1 B-14, J.Cancio St/LA-186	150,000
21. *Lot-19 Blk.-13-A / L.A.-168	180,000
MALABON – Hulong Duhat	**MIN BID**
22. H&L/# 8 Don Basilio Bautista Blvd., L.A.-886 / F.A.-847 40	6,200,000
ANTIPOLO, RIZAL	**MIN BID**
23. H&L, L-7 B-3, Valley Golf Dr Valley Golf Subd., Mayamot LA-1,961 / FA-107 (Nr. Ortigas Ext'n.)	5,424,000
24. L-20 B-17, Jerusalem St Ph-5 Brgy Uulan/LA-120 (via Tikling Junction & Melendres Subd.)	332,000
25. L-23 B-10, Cottonwood Hts Bayugo / LA-266 (near Sumulong)	2,049,000
26. L-21 B-2, Birchwood St, Cottonwood Hts, Bayugo / LA-355	2,734,000
27. Lot-47 Blk-18,Park Ridge Est. Ph -3 (via Valley Golf) LA-611	2,058,000
28. L-17 B-1, Beverly St, Sta Barbara-1 Luxury Est,Mission Hills,Colaique/LA-1,021 (near Pines City)	4,102,000
TARLAC CITY	**MIN BID**
29. Agro-Indl / Lot-3871-D,Sapang Maragul.Tibag /LA-10,001-near arch	3,315,000
TAGAYTAY CITY	**MIN BID**
In between Sta. Rosa, Lag. short-cut & Aguinaldo H-way	
30. Lot-8, Tagaytay-Calamba Rd. Tolentino-West (over looking Taal Lake) L.A.-2,156 *W/ Lis Pendens	20,000,000
NUEVA ECIJA - Cab. City	**MIN BID**
# 529 Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili (near L.T.O.)	
31. Res'l. Lot 3-A-6 / LA-1,820 62	400,000
32. Res'l. Lot 2-A / LA-2,535 36	1,388,000
33. 2-Storey Residential / Lot-2-G N.L.A.-1,861 9 / F.A.-138	4,022,000
ANGONO RZL.- via Antipolo	**MIN BID**
34. L-6 B-2, Mills St, Sta Monica Classic Est,Ph-3,Mission Hills Brgy Colaique/LA-540 (near Pines City)	2,096,000
SAN MATEO,RIZAL-Bo,Patiis	**MIN BID**
* No Right Of Way	
35. Lot B-15, Lot Area – 40,171	3,000,000
36. Lot B-16, Lot Area – 40,171	3,000,000
37. Lot B-17, Lot Area – 40,171	3,000,000
38. Lot B-18, Lot Area – 40,171	3,000,000
CAVITE - Carmona	**MIN BID**
39. L-16 B-1,Ph-1,Mla Southwoods Brgy C Baybay/LA-1,224 (nr. Gate-1)	6,577,000
CAVITE- Naic, Brgy. Palangue	**MIN BID**
Mango Orchard Res'l. & Farm Estates	
40. Lot-6 Blk.-18 / L.A. - 1,468	1,468,000
41. Lot-5 Blk.-19 / L.A - 964	964,000
42. Lot-6 Blk.-19 / L.A. - 1,194	1,194,000
43. Lot-4 Blk.-19-A / L.A.- 2,953	2,953,000
44. Lot-10 Blk.-19-B / L.A. - 2,245	2,245,000

RESIDENTIAL

LAGUNA – Calamba	**MIN BID**
Brgy. Lawa, Revelation St, St. Augustine Vill.	
45. Lot – 14 Blk. -1, L.A. - 106	276,000
46. Lot - 15 Blk. -1 , L.A. - 106	276,000
47. Lot - 16 Blk. -1 , L.A - 106	276,000
Yakal Rd, Acacia Park Hms, Brgy. Saimsim	
48. 2-Sty H&L,L-23 B-4/LA-35,FA-42 (Nr Ayala Greenfield & Euro Pharma)	202,000
LAGUNA-Cabuyao, Poblacion	**MIN BID**
49. 2-Sty. H&L. Unit-1 Bellbart Elsol Villas Thms. L.A.-107 / F.A.-85 *Near Mcdonalds & Wet Market	1,200,000
CAVITE - Bacoor, Molino III	**MIN BID**
50. H&L, L-37 B-31, Palmetto St. WoodEstate Subd /LA-35,FA-24	196,000
Madelaine Place, Springville Subdivision	
51. Lot - 8 Blk. - 1 / L.A.- 117	743,000
52. Lot - 6 Blk. - 4 / L.A.- 120	762,000
53. Lot - 10 Blk. - 3 / L.A.- 123	781,000
54. Lot - 18 Blk. - 6 / L.A.- 132	838,000
55. Lot - 19 Blk. - 7 / L.A.- 132	838,000
Central Phase – 2, Springville Subdivision	
56. L-24 B-7,MB Villar Ave /LA-120	974,000
57. L-3B-3 / LA-112, near ClubHse.	790,000
58. L-5B-3 / LA-112, near ClubHse.	790,000
59. L-7B-3 / LA-122, near ClubHse.	861,000
60. L-1B-1 / LA-142, near ClubHse.	1,002,000
61. L-2B-1 / LA-96, near ClubHse.	677,000
Washington Manor Hts., Springville Subd.	
62. Lot – 2 Blk. - 2 / L.A.- 154	1,304,000
63. Lot - 16 Blk. - 2 / L.A.- 145	1,227,000
64. Lot - 18 Blk. - 2 / L.A.- 162	1,371,000
Orchard Res'l. Estates and Golf & Country Club - Salitran, Dasmarinas, Cavite	
FAIRWAY LOTS	
65. Lot-27 Blk.-17 / L.A.- 828	3,147,000
66. Lot-52 Blk.-17 / L.A.- 1,130	4,284,000
67. Lot-93 Blk.-48 / L.A.- 783	2,976,000
NON - FAIRWAY LOTS	
68. Lot-09 Blk.-37 / L.A.- 672	2,016,000
69. Lot-35 Blk.-37 / L.A.- 687	2,061,000
70. Lot-67 Blk.-48 / L.A.- 506	1,518,000
CAVITE - Bacoor	**MIN BID**
71. 3-Dr 2-Sty/Res'l Apt /Lot-15-A Rosalia Subd.,Habay LA-152 FA-206-Nr SM Bacoor *W/ Lis Pendens	1,541,000

COMMERCIAL

MAKATI CITY	**MIN BID**
Brgy. Bangkal-nr. S.Super Hi-way & EDSA	
72. *L-7 B-7, Evangelista St. cor Arguelles St. / L.A - 310	11,600,000
73. *Lot-8 Blk.-7, Evangelista St. L.A.-311 *Subject to credit approval	11,700,000
Millenium Plaza- Mktl. Ave. cor. Eduque St.	
74. Condo Unit,5/F,FA-261 24 (nr former I S) *Subject to credit approval	17,765,000
PARANAQUE – San Dionisio	**MIN BID**
75. Lot-1-B & 1-C/Net LA-9,562 (back of SM & access b'side Shell) W/ Lis Pendens / *Subject to credit approval	25,161,000
MANILA – K.P. Tower	**MIN BID**
76. 2/F.CM Recto Ave.cor.J Luna St./ FA-658 *Subject to credit approval	28,792,000
QUEZON CITY	**MIN BID**
77. *Comm'l bldg/Lots8&9 Blk-S-27 Timog Ave LA-1,380-FA-1,500 Nr Unionbank Br & GMA-7 *On Lease	70,000,000
78. *Lot w/ Whse/185 Roosevelt Ave, San Francisco Del Monte L.A.-5,641 / F.A.-3,454 (Nr Unionbank Br Del Monte)	140,000,000
79. *Lot w/ Warehse /# 138 Gen Luis cor Pasacola Rd, Nagkaisang Nayon,N'iches/LA-49,504,FA-23,384 * Subject to credit approval	300,000,000
VALENZUELA CITY	**MIN BID**
80. *Ind'l. Lot/Lot-2, 6-A, 4-A & B 3, 6-B-1 & 2, Maysan *No right of way* Net LA-12,516 (via Viongco St)	8,003,000
81. *Whse/Lot-13 Templanza St D, Pedro Vil, Marulas LA-2,540 FA-3,314 (Near Savory Rest)	20,232,000
82. *Ind'l Lot w/ 2 W'hses(14&16) Barracks, Canteen,Guardhse Lot-1075-D-1-C, Plastic City 6 T Santiago St,Canumay-West L.A.-9,923 / F.A.-7,096	39,703,000
83. *Ind'l Lot w/ W'hse,847 Maysan Rd., (near Maysan Elem Schl.) L.A.-7,871 / F.A.-7,040	40,702,000
84. *Ind'l.Lot w/ Bldgs./Lot-382-C Plastic City Housing,Canumay L.A.-25,798 / F.A.-5,310 (Via T Santiago St. & Pinagbayanan St) * Subject to credit approval	45,000,000
TAGUIG - Global City Fort Boni.	**MIN BID**
(Infront of Adidas Sports Camp)	
85. Lot-3 Blk.-18 / L.A - 1,643 (Subject to credit approval)	164,300,000
TARLAC CITY – Town Proper	**MIN BID**
86. *Lot-4-C, Rizal St. / L.A.-759	8,093,000
87. *L-4-B,Rizal cor Panganiban Sts /LA-1,102 *Subject to credit approval	11,752,000
NUEVA ECIJA - Cab. City	**MIN BID**
# 529 Pag-Asa, Daan Sarili (near L.T.O.)	
88. *Agri Lot/Lot-3-B/NLA-37,041	2,366,000
89. *Comml Lot w/ W'hse & Offc. Lot-2-H/NLA-2,260 67/FA-580 * Subject to credit approval	5,098,000
SARIAYA - QUEZON PROV.	**MIN BID**
90. Agri.Lot w/ resl H&L,W'hse & Piggery/Lot-6181-A-5-A-1-A-1-I Psd 4A-001202, Bo. Sampaloc TLA-101,038 65 / TFA-9,277 -near bridge (Subject to credit approval)	45,053,000

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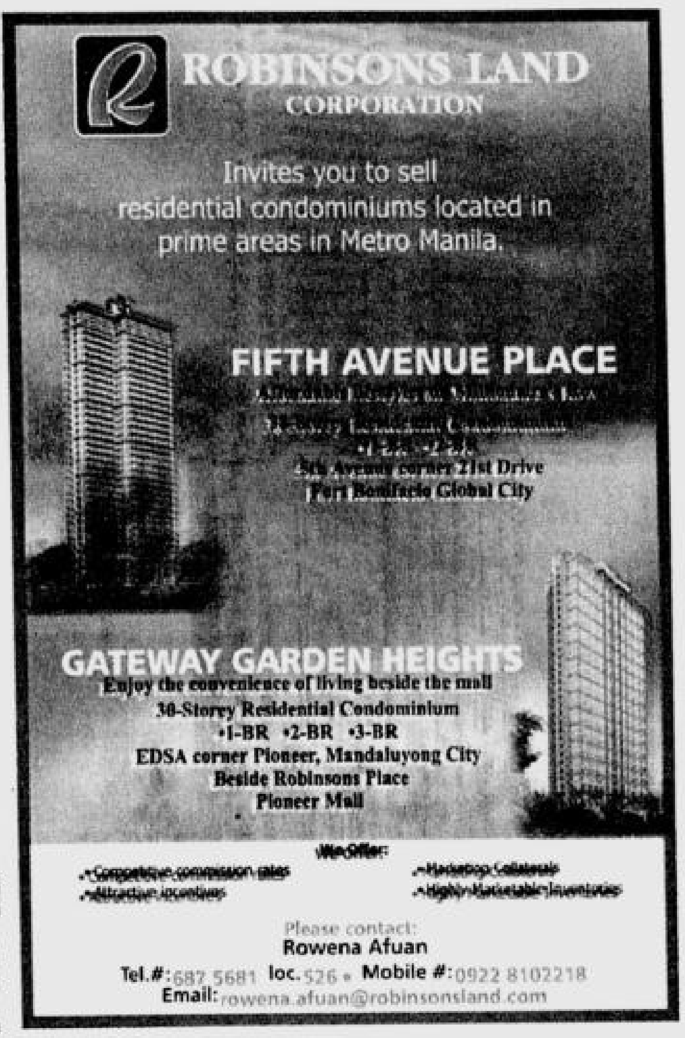
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Description:	Vacant Lot Area: 922 sqms.
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LEGAL NOTICE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN THAT THE ESTATE OF THE LATE TEODORICO T. NERECINA HAS BEEN EXTRAJUDICIALLY SETTLED BY HIS HEIRS AS PER DOC # 202; PAGE # 36; BOOK # 18; SERIES OF 2003 BEFORE NOTARY PUBLIC ATTY. GERLO C. CACATIAN OF MANILA
(PDI-May 15,22 & 29, 2005)

NOTICE OF LOSS

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE LOSS OF PETRON CORP STOCK CERTIFICATE OF DIVINA GRACIA PEREGRINO WITH STOCK NO. 00624057 AND 8,850 SHARES. SHOULD NO ONE CONTEST ON OR BEFORE 05/29/05 NEW CERTIFCATE WILL BE ISSUED.
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NFA distributes rice to deficit areas

THE NATIONAL Authority continues to serve the rice needs of remote areas and those where production is low with its stocks imported from various countries. According to NFA administrator Gregorio Y. Tan, Jr. the agency has distributed a total of 347,609 MT of the staple since the start of the year. Most of these are stocks contracted by the government from countries like Vietnam and Thailand. Tan expressed confidence that with the completion of the deliveries of the imported rice this month, the country will be sufficient in the supply of the staple especially during the traditional non-production months starting July. He said his office continues to implement intensive market monitoring to ensure the availability of government rice at the set prices in various markets nationwide. For more information on NFA programs, the public may send inquiries, complaints or suggestions to TXT NFA through mobile No. 0917-6210927.

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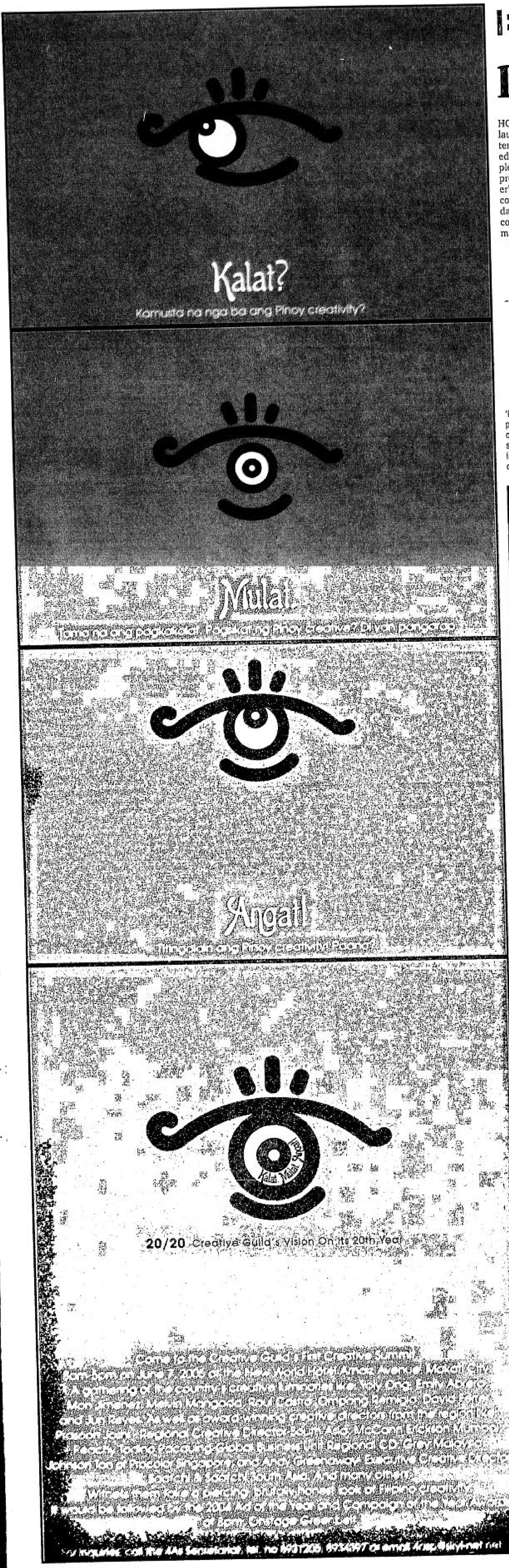
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For inquiries, call the 4As Secretariat, tel. no 8937205, 8934397 or email 4as@skynet.net

Drive the Honda way

HONDA Cars Kalookan Inc (HCKI) now launches its driving school. It offers an extensive and varied training course conducted in an air-conditioned training room complete with audio visual facilities. Its goal is to provide students with a comprehensive Driver's Education and Training to become safe, conscientious and defensive driver in accordance to Honda's standards. The lectures cover basic driving skills, defensive driving, maintenance, and preventive tips.

HCKI's driving program is conducted by certified instructors with more than 24,000 hours of licensed teaching experience through lectures, actual driving and tests. Instructors posses the necessary skills to handle nervous students in ever changing, complex, traffic situations. All lessons are private 1:1 ratio, by full-time instructors in defensive driving. HCKI also offers special driving lessons (VIP Courses) for busy clients who want instructors to pick them up at their office or home to conduct the course.

The cars used for the program are regularly maintained and inspected at various times by the Honda Certified Technicians thus keeping the units in top shape and allowing a worry free driving experience for the student. Also, all vehicles have full comprehensive coverage insurance by Honda VIP (Malayan) Insurance.

HCKI Driving School also provides value added services to all its students. This includes 24-hour/7-day emergency roadside assistance , driver's license facilitation, special Honda VIP insurance rates, and Honda Hydrophyllic Paint protection for units insured with Honda VIP insurance.

For more information about HCKI Driving School, visit Honda Cars Kalookan Inc located at 598 Edsa Balintawak, Caloocan City or contact Mhel Marcelo at 366-57-01 to 24 loc. 65, email drivingschool@hondakal.com.

'BY ESTABLISHING a driving school which emphasizes the Honda Way in terms of safety, education and skills, we hope to produce safe and responsible drivers and raise the standards in driving.' states Johnny S. Fetalvero, general manager of Honda Cars Kalookan Inc.

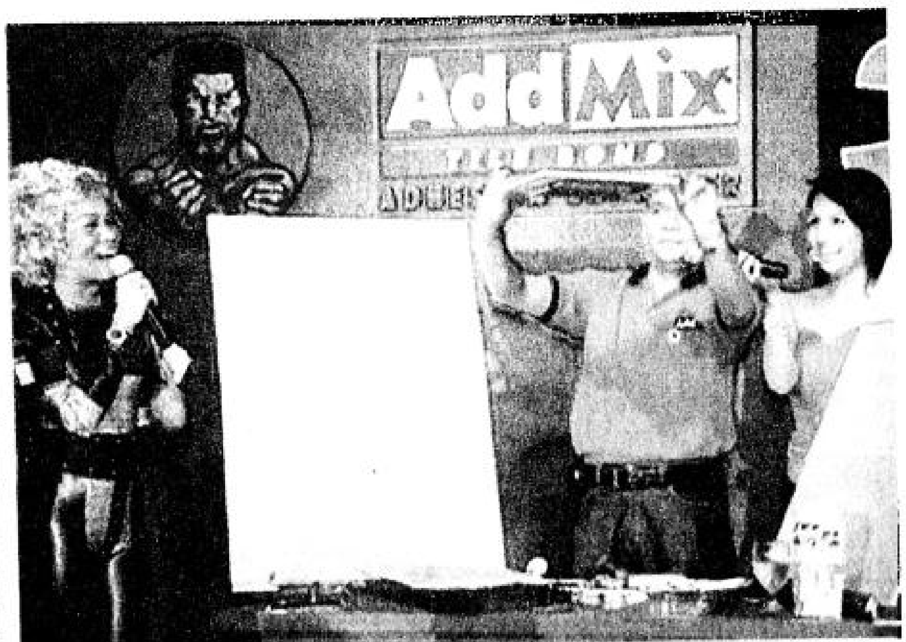
Tears of Hope, Tears of Health
Contract Signing

PFIZER'S VISINE REFRESH, EBFP LAUNCH CAMPAIGN

Pfizer's Visine Refresh has signed a contract with the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines (EBFP) to collaborate on an educational campaign on proper eye care health called, 'Tears of Hope, Tears of Health'. In line with this campaign, Pfizer will donate a portion of each Visine Refresh sale to the EBFP in support of its fight against corneal blindness. The contract was signed by (seated, center) Dr. Minguita Padilla, founder and president of EBFP, and Rafael Besa, general manager of Pfizer, and witnessed by (seated, far right) Jose Manuel Pabalan, executive director of EBFP, and (seated, far left) Bobby Asprer, category head of Pfizer. Also present during the contract signing were: (standing, from left) Dr. Randy Canal, Pfizer portfolio physician; Cheyenne Dawn Regalado, EBFP PR coordinator; Millette Asuncion, Pfizer legal director; Kimmy Coseteng, Pfizer corporate affairs associate director; and Kristen Mariano, Pfizer product manager.

2GO DELIVERS SUPERFERRY TICKETS

Now, you can enjoy the seamless Aboitiz service. Aboitiz passage and freight groups, SuperFerry and 2GO respectively, have combined its travel and courier services. With 2GO, a happy trip onboard the SuperFerry is made even happier - from the time you book your ticket to having it delivered right at your doorstep. This new service from Aboitiz spells nothing but convenience - Purchase your SuperFerry ticket in a snap either through the Internet (E-ticket) or by calling the Customer Interaction Center (CIC), then have the same ticket delivered right away free of charge. Talk about hassle-free. Sea travel at its most convenient only from SuperFerry and 2GO. Requests for ticket delivery should be done at least 3 working days prior to date of departure and must be within serviceable areas of Metro Manila and Rizal. The same ticket-delivery service is also available in Cebu. For ticket orders, deliveries, and further inquiries, you may call SuperFerry CIC at (02) 528-7000 or (032) 233-7000 for Cebu residents. For your freight needs, visit www.2GO.com.ph.



ADDMIX TILEBOND ELIMINATES DEMOLITION OF OLD TILES

An AddMix guy shows how permanent and sturdy an AddMix Tilebond works when used with tiles and pavers. He also shows how a tile could easily cling to another tile with AddMix Tilebond. So there is no need to demolish tiles thus saving on time and labor costs. Showbiz personalities Regine Tolentino and Terry Onor, hosts of the AddMix Tilebond launch, are amazed at how the product works.

- Surprises /C, G
- Home /D
- Travel /E
- Weddings /F

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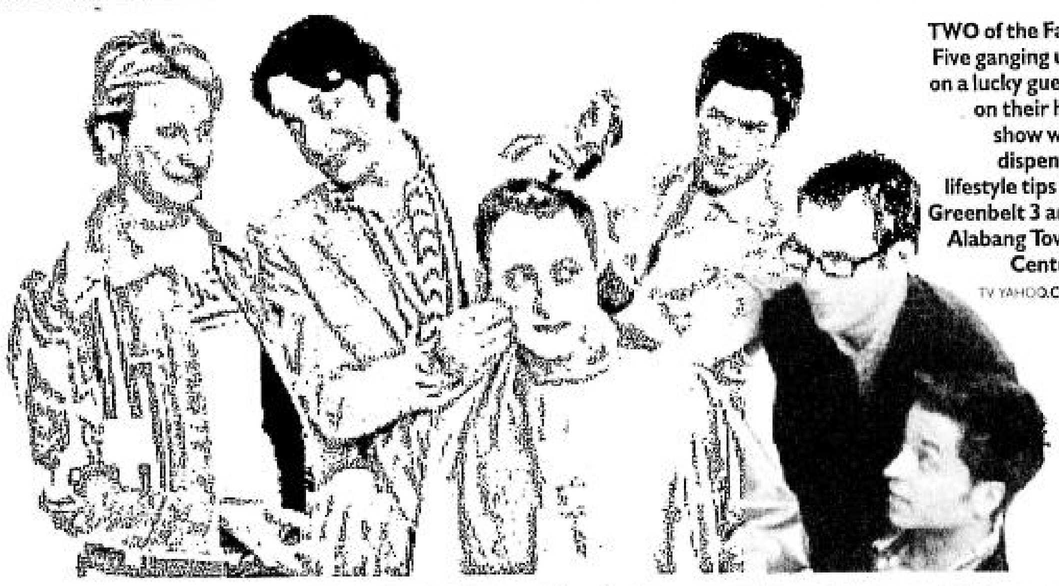
Editor Chelo Banal-Formoso

Queer eye for the straight Pinoy



TWO of the Fab Five ganging up on a lucky guest on their hit show will dispense lifestyle tips at Greenbelt 3 and Alabang Town Center.

TV.YAHOO.COM

Kyan Douglas and Thom Filicia from the hit lifestyle show are set to sashay into fab Manila

TELEVISION hasn't been the same since "Queer Eye For the Straight Guy" sashayed into the cable scene.

And now Filipinos who rave about the tips on fashion and grooming, culture and social graces, as well as food and home interiors dished out by the Emmy-award winning reality TV show are in for a fab surprise.

Grooming specialist Kyan Douglas and interior design expert Thom Filicia are scheduled to visit Greenbelt Mall and Alabang Town Center on June 11.

Filicia takes center stage in an Interior Decorating and Q&A Session at the Town Plaza/Corte De Las Palmas at the Alabang Town Center from 10-11 a.m., right after which he scoots over to the Homezone Opening at the ground floor Activity Center to unveil his exhibit.

Meanwhile, Douglas meets his audience armed with advice on personal care in a Grooming and Styling Tips Q&A Session from 2:30-3:30 p.m. at the lobby entrance of Greenbelt 3 in Makati City.

At 6 p.m., the Fab Two will be rubbing elbows with guests at a cocktails and fashion show party at the Greenbelt 4 Bamboo Park, where they will be sure to wow the crowds with their cable-ready styling sense.

Despite the "Queer Eye" gloss and their popular appeal, Filicia and Douglas are both specialists backed by extensive experience.

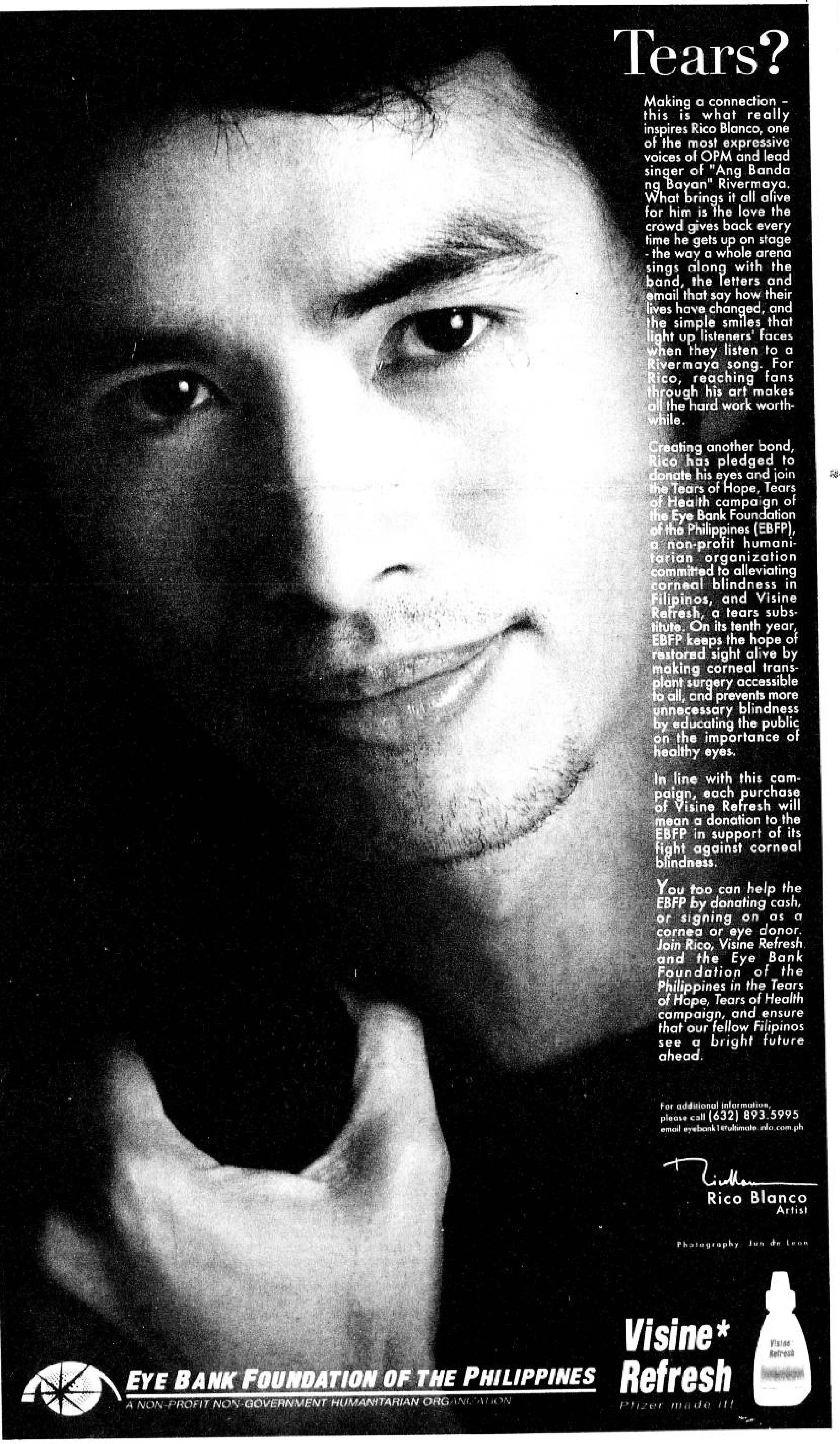
Filicia is the founder of his own interior design company, Thom Filicia Inc., where he has established a strong reputation and earned a place in House Beautiful's list of Top 100 American Designers. His practice involves both residential and commercial projects, with clients ranging from leaders of fashion and entertainment to real-estate development and projects that include the W Hotel and the US Pavilion at the 2005 World's Fair in Aichi, Japan. He attended Syracuse University's School of Art and Design in the College of Visual Performing Arts where he studied all aspects of Interior Design. His work has been featured in House & Garden, W. City, Details, New York, and the New York Times.

Douglas, the author of "Beautified: Secrets for Women to Look Great and Feel Fabulous," is a specialist in men's skin care and has had excellent training and professional experience in the hair, spa and retail industries. He received his certification in cosmetology from the Aveda Institute New York, and worked as a colorist at the upscale Arrojo Studio in the fashionable Soho District in New York City.

The lifestyle events showcasing the "Queer Eye" stars are co-presented by Ayala Malls whose mall designs are also award-winning and equally famous for the unparalleled shopping and entertainment experience they afford mallgoers and by Stores Specialists Inc., exclusive distributor of world-renowned brands like Gucci, Ferragamo, Prada, Bottega Veneta, YSL, Burberry, Tod's and many more.

KYAN Douglas

THOM Filicia



Tears?

Making a connection - this is what really inspires Rico Blanco, one of the most expressive voices of OPM and lead singer of "Ang Banda ng Bayan" Rivermaya. What brings it all alive for him is the love the crowd gives back every time he gets up on stage - the way a whole arena sings along with the band, the letters and email that say how their lives have changed, and the simple smiles that light up listeners' faces when they listen to a Rivermaya song. For Rico, reaching fans through his art makes all the hard work worthwhile.

Creating another bond, Rico has pledged to donate his eyes and join the Tears of Hope, Tears of Health campaign of the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines (EBFP), a non-profit humanitarian organization committed to alleviating corneal blindness in Filipinos, and Visine Refresh, a tears substitute. On its tenth year, EBFP keeps the hope of restored sight alive by making corneal transplant surgery accessible to all, and prevents more unnecessary blindness by educating the public on the importance of healthy eyes.

In line with this campaign, each purchase of Visine Refresh will mean a donation to the EBFP in support of its fight against corneal blindness.

You too can help the EBFP by donating cash, or signing on as a cornea or eye donor. Join Rico, Visine Refresh and the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines in the Tears of Hope, Tears of Health campaign, and ensure that our fellow Filipinos see a bright future ahead.

For additional information,
please call (632) 893.5995
email eyebank1@ultimate.info.com.ph

Rico Blanco
Artist

Photography Jun de Leon

EYE BANK FOUNDATION OF THE PHILIPPINES
A NON-PROFIT NON-GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION

Visine* Refresh
Pfizer made it!

"LOVE PATCH." This breakthrough birth-control product, already used by some 5 million women in the United States, is now available in the Philippines.

Patch of 'safety'

Time magazine called the first transdermal contraception one of 2002's 'coolest inventions'

TIME
the coolest inventions of 2002
COOLEST INVENTIONS
for your health
LOVE PATCH

By Cheche V. Moral

THE DAYS of the pill may be numbered.

Okay, that's probably overstating it. But many busy Filipino women constantly worrying that they will miss their daily dose of oral contraceptive, will probably welcome the news that there is now a more convenient but just as effective substitute to the pill.

Evra, the first transdermal contraceptive patch, and possibly the most innovative, noninvasive birth-control method since the pill, is finally available in the Philippines.

Touted to be as effective and safe as the pill, some five million women in the United States have come to embrace Evra since it first hit the market two years ago, primarily because it freed them from daily worries of missing the pill.

A single patch stuck to the skin conveniently delivers a seven-day supply of contraceptive in measured doses through the skin into the bloodstream. The daily dose prevents ovulation or the production of eggs that, when fertilized by a man's sperm during intercourse, results in pregnancy.

Two hormones

According to Dr. Alex Delgado, medical director of Janssen Pharmaceutica, a division of Johnson & Johnson and local distributor of Evra (it is known in the US as Ortho Evra), the transdermal patch is 99 percent effective in preventing pregnancy, like the pill, "when used correctly."

The beige patch is square-shaped with rounded edges, about 1½ x 1½ inch in size. It is slightly thicker than a Band-Aid—thin enough to be worn discreetly under clothing, on areas of the body that are less prone to rubbing: the buttocks, upper outer arms, upper back and abdomen.

Norelgestromin + Ethinyl estradiol
3 patches
Evra
6 mg / 600 mcg
transdermal patch
transdermal contraception
℞

UNLIKE the pill, Evra delivers drug for seven days in only one application.

A patch contains 6 mg of norelgestromin (progestin) and 600 mcg of ethinyl estradiol (estrogen), two hormones used in most oral contraceptives.

A first-time Evra user applies the first patch on the first day of her menstruation. The patch is removed and immediately replaced on the same day of the following week and the week thereafter (days 8 and 15, or change days). From day 22 is patch-free week. (Pill users, says Delgado, usually take iron supplement or placebo, seven pills of a different color, during this week.)

A new patch cycle begins after this week, regardless of the onset of menstruation. This is true even for women with irregular monthly periods, Delgado adds.

Doctor's advice needed

He stresses that women who want to use the patch for the first time, whether or not they are current contraceptive users or are breastfeeding, have first to consult their obstetrician-gynecologist (OB-Gyne or experts on women's health) before using the patch. "It's not for everyone," he says.

THE PATCH aims to correspond with modern women's busy and complex lifestyles.

Smokers and women with certain preexisting conditions, like diabetes, heart disease, hypertension, should be especially careful about using the patch without doctor's advice, Delgado says. He adds Evra may be less effective for obese women, or those weighing over 90 kg.

"Oral contraception (pill) has been associated with weight gain," Delgado notes. He says 87 percent of women tested on Evra maintained their body weight. Clinical trials showed Eva's side-effects were similar to the pill's.

A one-month, three-patch pack of Evra retails in drugstores at P555, or about P35 more than the most popular oral contraceptive in the market.

Delgado says, like any prescription drug, Evra must be used correctly to be effective. The patch must be kept intact at all times. In case of partial detachment, the user must try to reapply the edge that has detached. If the patch no longer adheres to the skin, or is completely detached, it must be immediately replaced.

Change days must follow the same schedule to avoid confusion. No more than one patch should be worn at a time.

Strong adhesive

Evra is said to stay attached to the skin even in the shower or sauna, or while doing strenuous activities like swimming or exercising. Though no studies have been done on women living in humid countries like the Philippines, Julie Bolaño-Gener, Evra's franchise manager, says tests were done on women in US states with humid climates like Florida, Georgia and Louisiana.

Of 4,877 test subjects in those areas, only 1.7 percent reported complete patch detachment and 2.6 percent partial detachment.

Bolaño-Gener, who has been on Evra for two months, says the product actually has a "grace period" of two days beyond its one-week efficacy. This means a user who forgets to replace her patch on actual change day, have up to two "safe" days to change the patch.

Delgado stresses that Evra is recommended only for women 18 years old and above. "This is not for women under 18, who usually (have) high-risk (pregnancies) or prone to complications."

Introduced locally in early April, Delgado and Bolaño-Gener say it's too early to say if Filipinas will take to the product branded by Time magazine as one of 2002's "coolest inventions." But they're optimistic.

Initial anxiety

"Well, with anything new... there's always that initial anxiety," Delgado shrugs. "Physicians are easier to convince because they are familiar with the patch technology. They know how it works."

Delgado adds that though transdermal patches have been in use for a long time—to cure smoking and as painkiller for cancer patients, among others—it is relatively new in the Philippines, which may make women hesitant to try it. But he assures them Evra is approved by the Bureau of Food and Drug.

Janssen Pharmaceutica (tel. 8247901, 8175670) holds free lectures for interested companies or groups that want to know more about Evra. Bolaño-Gener says an OB-Gyne conducts the lecture. Participants can consult the same OB-Gyne and, if qualified, will be given a free trial pack of Evra.

E-mail cmoral@inquirer.com.ph

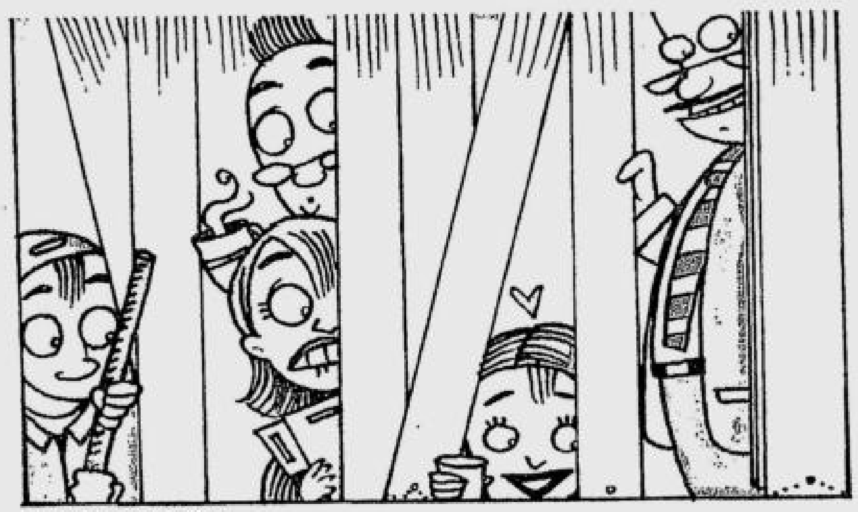
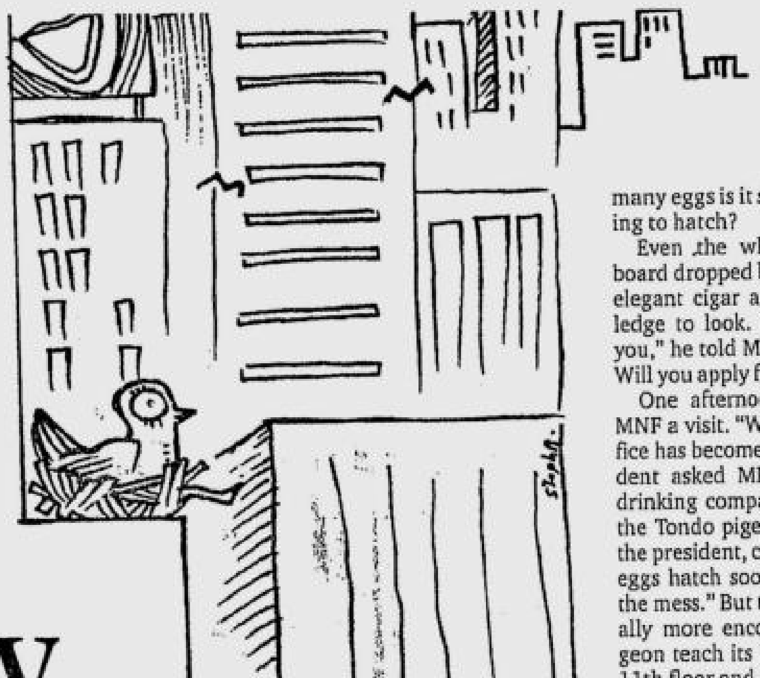


ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO



The lofty nest

By Gilda Cordero Fernando

ON A MISERABLY wet September week, in the '70s, a pregnant pigeon was forced by bad weather to build a nest on the precarious concrete ledge of the 11th floor of the elegant Meralco building. The first day after the big storm, the surprised executive (called MNF) on whose balcony ledge the pigeon had laid its two eggs, stood on his wall-to-wall carpet, opened the vertical Venetian blinds and beheld the creature. The wild-eyed pigeon cowered in fright, covering its eggs with a half-spread wing. But it was a good mother, and it stayed glued to the ledge, determined to hatch its eggs.

The pigeon was obviously a tough city cookie. In true squatter fashion, it had built its nest out of a ragtag assortment of dirty newspaper shreds, bits of hedge cutting, even a couple of sticks of a coconut rib-broom, all put together in a slatternly fashion. Could the bird perchance have come from Tondo?

What to do when a pigeon chooses to build its home and have its baby on your office ledge?

Foster dad

Well, what to do when you suddenly become a foster father? MNF, the chosen one, brought a bag of *monggo* beans to the office in his leather briefcase the next morning. His secretary, Mila, got an empty ice cream cup, filled it with water and pushed it as unobtrusively as possible toward the bird. Then, deciding that the nest was too skimpy, she unraveled a shiny gift ribbon down to thread and put that on the ledge, too. Surreptitiously, the bird ate the *monggo*, sipped the water and incorporated the bright shreds of silver ribbon into its *barong-barong* nest.

MNF and his secretary warned the janitor not to disturb the bird. Please not to vacuum-clean the balcony or sweep the ledge, no matter how much bird shit. Not only the morning janitor was warned but the afternoon one as well. (They were happy enough not to sweep).

Company concern

Strangely, there was great interest and concern in the building for MNF's feathered squatter. All the secretaries and their bosses had, of course, heard about the bird from MNF's secretary. Over their Caesar salad and escargot in the penthouse, the executives asked MNF curiously about the pigeon. They found excuses to go to MNF's room, carrying memos or balance sheets or checks or letters of disconnection of the rich and powerful people and they invariably asked to see the OXO bird sitting in her *barong-barong* nest. And they wanted to know: When did it fly in? What does it eat? How many eggs is it sitting on? When are they going to hatch?

Even the white-haired chairman of the board dropped by one afternoon, smoking his elegant cigar and chuckling, ambled to the ledge to look. "I'm sure they will look like you," he told MNF, "with moustaches and all. Will you apply for paternity leave?"

One afternoon, even the president paid MNF a visit. "What is this I hear that your office has become a maternity ward?" Mr. President asked MNF, who was his after-hours drinking companion. And he, too, looked at the Tondo pigeon. "The ledge is filthy!" said the president, covering his nose. "I hope those eggs hatch soon so the janitor can clean up the mess." But the president's concern was really more encompassing. "How will the pigeon teach its babies to fly when it is on the 11th floor and the nearest tree is sixty meters away?" the president wondered out loud over his eggs Benedict during one breakfast conference.

Hatched at last

Finally, over a long weekend, the two eggs hatched. Only one baby lived. It had a little black head and cheeped weakly. It didn't last three days. The mama pigeon looked ruefully at the dead chick, the empty eggshells and MNF's nape, ruffled its feathers and flew away.

MNF's secretary put the little chick in a fluted cupcake cup and told the janitor to bury it.

"Well, that solves the problem of how it would learn how to fly," said the president.

"Good riddance to bird shit," said the chairman of the board. "They probably wouldn't have looked good with moustaches anyway."

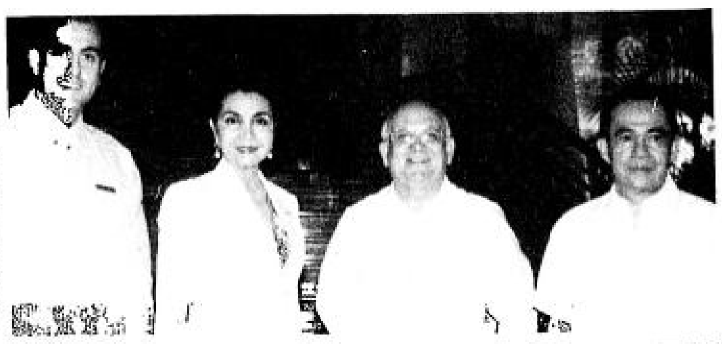
"Now I can shout at you again," said MNF to Mila. Only the secretary didn't say anything as she dropped the leftover *monggo* into the waste can.

Summer of 1974 was the worst Manila ever had. A fireman fell from his ladder while training his hose on a burning building nearby. An unseasonal killer typhoon hit. A despondent teenager leaped to her death from the ledge of a hotel. In Makati, an aggrieved employee ran amuck and stabbed his boss. But that was a bountiful year of business for the company as there has always been good fortune in human habitations where stray birds have laid their eggs.

MEXICAN Ambassador Erendra Araceli Paz Campos, Brunei Ambassador Emaleen Abd. Rahman Teo, Wendy Jeffery Hely, Gallie Risa, Daniela Pitty, Artemis Sumer and Noriko Yamasaki

NEW WORLD GM Stephen Stoss, Amparito Lhuillier, Tourism director Edu Jarque and Senior Presidential Adviser on Tourism Arthur Lopez

BETOY JOHNSON



MARTIN Macalintal (audiovisual attache), Louis Paul Heusaff (supply oilfield services), French Ambassador Renée Veyret, Francois Blamont (counsellor for cooperation and cultural affairs) and Philippe Salord (cultural attache)

CEBU Gov. Gwendolyn Garcia, Tourism Secretary Joseph Durano, Makati Mayor Jejomar Binay and Cebu City Hotel's Karl Hudson

BETOY JOHNSON

'Bienvenida' for new friends

DIPLOMATIC SWIRL

By Amiga

FOR THE 25TH year, the Metro Manila Council of Women Balikatan Movement, headed by **Leonarda Camacho**, hosted a *bienvenida* for newly arrived Brunei Ambassador **Emaleen Abd. Rahman Teo** and Mexican Ambassador **Erendra Araceli Campos**, as well as the spouses of new ambassadors such as **Wendy Jeffery**, wife of Australian Ambassador **Tony Hely**; **Artemis Sumer**, wife of Turkish Ambassador **Tanju Sumer**; **Gallie Risa**, wife of Norwegian Ambassador **Stole Risa**; and **Daniela Pitty**, wife of Panamanian Ambassador **Juan Felipe Pitty**, at the Mandarin Oriental.

Miss Mouton Cadet

Tita Trillo of Wine Cellar has set about popularizing French culture and French wine. One of her more successful ventures is the promotion of Mouton Cadet from the Rothschild vineyards.

For the second year in a row, the Miss Mouton Cadet Baron Philippe de Rothschild was proclaimed at the La Vigne Bistro, where a dinner for judges, major sponsors and friends was held. Guest of honor was **Xavier de Eizguirre**, president of the Baron Philippe de Rothschild vineyards.

The Miss Mouton Cadet winner was **Gwennaelle Ruais** , a girl of French descent representing the LJC Group. She was awarded a trip to France and also got a chance to attend the Cannes Film Festival this May.

Celebrating Cebu

A foodfest is always a pleasure, and **Monique Toda** of New World Renaissance Hotel had a winner with her Celebrating Cebu.

The gracious Cebu governor, **Gwen Garcia**, jetted all the way to Manila to attend the launch, together with ever-glamorous **Amparito Lhuillier** (who also lent four of her fabulous **Monique Lhuillier** gowns for the lobby exhibit). Super busy Tourism Secretary **Joseph Durano** and Presidential Adviser on Tourism **Arthur Lopez** also took time out to attend the event.

If you missed the wonderful exhibit of Cebu products that included much-awarded **Kenneth Cobonpue's** innovative furniture pieces, the beaded bags of **Johanna Lhuillier** and **Iris Arcenas** at the hotel lobby, make sure you take your next vacation in Cebu. Show your pride in our own treasures.

French Spring

The French Spring in Manila 2005, the promotion of French culture by the French Embassy, Alliance Française and the Association Française d'Action Artistique, is set to open this June.

Get ready to enjoy award-winning French films starting June 2 at Greenbelt 3; a gastronomy fair and workshop at the Mandarin, June 6-19; classical music concerts as well as juggling and street theater performances at Greenbelt; circus performances, exhibits and, of course, Fête de la Musique, the all-day, all-night music festival to welcome spring at El Pueblo, Ortigas Center on June 18.

Concert tour

And would you believe **Ingrid Sala Sta. Maria** is at it again? Together with United States-based concert pianist **Reynaldo Reyes**, she is embarking on the 10th Romantic Philippine and International Concert Tour, June 14-Aug. 21, with five concerts in Los Angeles and Asia, including the Philippines.

The duo will be playing at Fuente de Artes in Makati, July 3; Sta. Isabel College, July 6; and University of Santo Tomas on July 7, and several other places. They're also performing in Cebu, Cavite, Cagayan de Oro on July 30, and Tagaytay Highlands on Aug. 6.

Tears?

Kitchie knows the fears involved in making choices. Leaving her old band and all its success, she took a self-imposed hiatus to focus on earning her college double-degree. And, in her own time and on her own terms, this angelic rocker returned to the music scene to claim it all once more. Today, her success as a solo artist, songwriter and producer is twice as sweet because she got it all back simply by taking that leap of faith.

Keeping the faith, Kitchie has pledged to donate her eyes and join the Tears of Hope, Tears of Health campaign of the Eye Bank Foundation of the Philippines (EBFP), a non-profit humanitarian organization committed to alleviating corneal blindness in Filipinos, and Visine Refresh, a tears substitute. On its tenth year, EBFP keeps the hope of restored sight alive by making corneal transplant surgery accessible to all, and prevents more unnecessary blindness by educating the public on the importance of healthy eyes.

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For additional information,
please call (632) 893.5995
email eyebank1@ultimate.info.com.ph

Kitchie Nadal
Singer/Songwriter

Photography: Jun de Leon

EYE BANK FOUNDATION OF THE PHILIPPINES
A NON-PROFIT NON GOVERNMENT HUMANITARIAN ORGANIZATION

Visine* Refresh
Pfizer made it!

SMART Buddy GSM Pre-paid

Choose your dream

sa

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to earn additional raffle entries with Choose Your Dream's featured content of the day (logo, picture messages, info on demand, etc.) and track your chances of winning daily for only ₱2.50!

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3	**HOME PARTNER**	One (1) weekly home partner can win the equivalent of the cash prize of the studio contestant or a minimum of ₱25,000

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GMA NETWORK

SMART's Choose Your Dream is open to all SMART GSM subscribers: SMART Buddy, SMART Gold, SMART Infinity, SMART Kid, Talk 'N Text, Addict Mobile and Addict Mobile Prepaid. See posters for details. Promo period: May 5 – August 6, 2005. Per DTI-NCR Permit No. 2527 Series of 2005.
For more details, please call the SMART Hotline at 888-1111 or *888 (P1.00/message sent in excess of the free text allocation). Email us at customercare@smart.com.ph or visit the SMART Wireless Center nearest you.

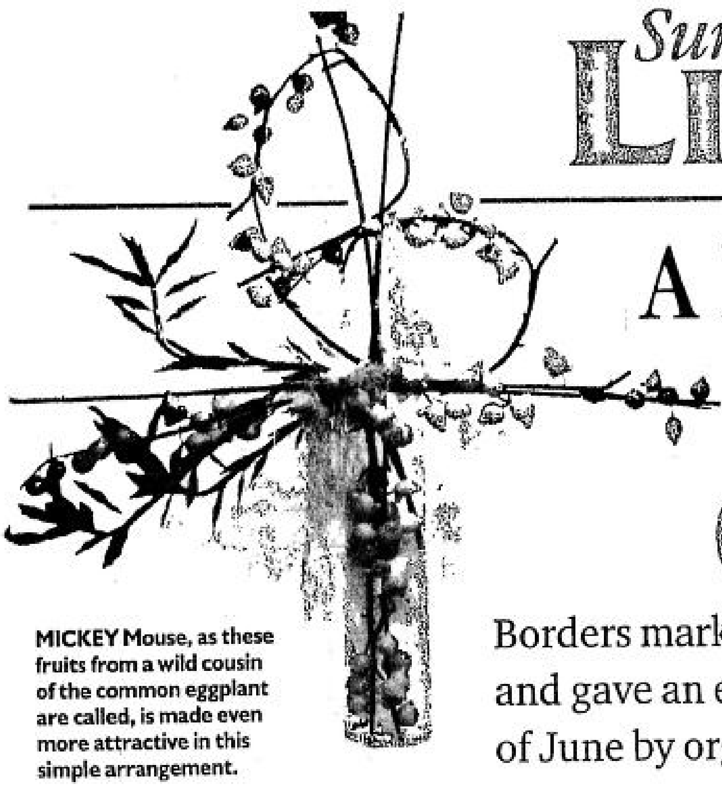
Sunday LIFESTYLE Home

For feedback, e-mail us at lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph

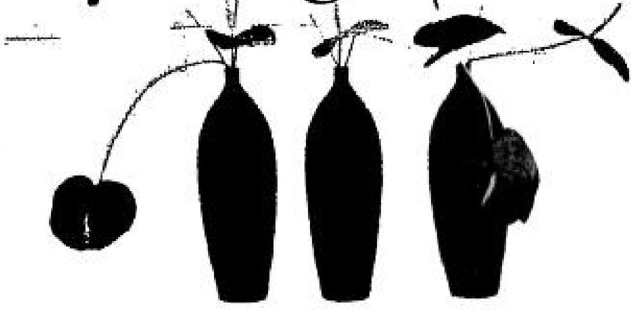
Text us your feedback:
Inquirer life name/age/city/message to
2207 (Globe) or 283 (Smart)

A house full of flowers—and fruits and anything colorful

Borders marked both the merry month of May and gave an early welcome to the marry month of June by organizing a floral demonstration



MICKEY Mouse, as these fruits from a wild cousin of the common eggplant are called, is made even more attractive in this simple arrangement.



A SIMPLE but elegant arrangement for three ceramic jars

By Linda B. Bolido

YOU'VE got to hand it to Borders. They not only sell you nice stuff, they also help you make the most of those things you bought.

So, several days ago, with the eager and enthusiastic collaboration of stylist Rachy Cuna, the furniture-cum-lifestyle store marked both the merry month of flowers, May, and gave an early welcome to the marry month of June by organizing a floral demonstration. Some 50 women attended.

Cuna, using both artificial and fresh flowers, demonstrated that a candleholder need not be just for candles; a ceramic piece, no matter how pretty, should not just stand in a corner gathering dust; and a glass container is never too narrow, too wide, too tall or too oddly shaped to hold some interesting floral arrangements.

Similarly, the stylist demonstrated that flowers and foliage are not the only things that make for interesting arrangements. For Cuna, everything colorful, including fruits and vegetables, is fair game. Bamboo strips, vines and sticks also gain respectability as attractive accents in Cuna's deft hands.

The session was also interactive. Alice Cruz, owner of Borders, said each participant got a kit with the basics for making their own floral arrangements. Cuna, before the session ended, got some of them to use the items in their kits, offering useful advice and commentary as they worked.

The demonstration is part of the store's ongoing "Flores de Mayo @ Borders." On focus are merchandise celebrating the beauty and bounty of nature that people can enjoy in their own homes.

Also featured is a month-long exhibit of paintings of flowers and fruits by the all-women La Vista Artists Thursday Group led

A HOUSE/ D2

AGAPANTHUS and nito vines constitute this arrangement that uses three tall and narrow crystal vases.

PHOTOS BY ROMY HOMILLADA

ANTHURIUM is rolled and tied for this arrangement that also uses bamboo sticks and umbrella plant stalks.

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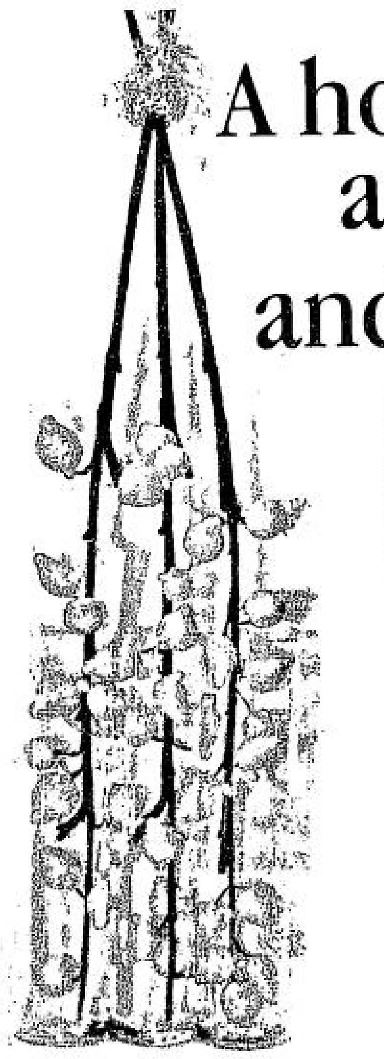
ALICE Cruz, owner of Borders; stylist Rachy Cuna; and Liane Bautista, marketing manager

Bamboo strips, vines, and sticks gain respectability as attractive accents in Rachy Cuna's deft hands

FOR Cuna, no material or container is unsuitable for an arrangement.
ROMY HOMILLADA

A house full of flowers—and fruits and anything colorful



THREE tall and narrow glass vases are used for this arrangement of Mickey Mouse fruits.

FRESH lotus, Baston ni San Jose and papyrus make up this arrangement in a shallow glass vase.
ROMY HOMILLADA

From page D1

by Marissa Romero.

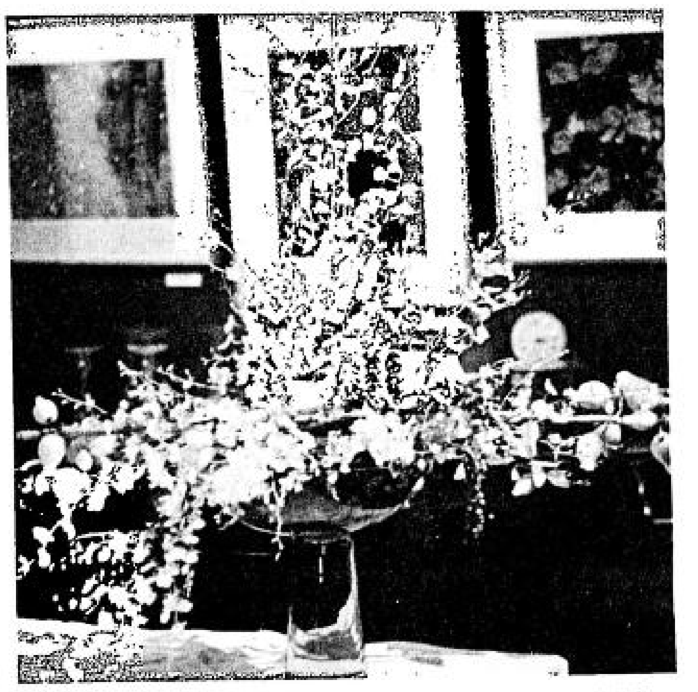
Items on sale include flower arrangements; colorful throw pillows, place mats and runners; and other decorative pieces, many of them one-of-a-kind.

Dining tables, set up using such items, and furniture arrangements are designed to give viewers fresh ideas on how to dress up their own homes in keeping with the festive months.

Cruz said Cuna's floral arrangement demonstration was so well received that even before it ended guests were already asking when the next "learning activity," as they had dubbed the session, would be held.

Encouraged by the feedback, she said Borders would be looking at other activities they could schedule later in the year. Borders, also in cooperation with Cuna, usually holds a pre-Christmas gift-wrapping demonstration.

Borders is at G/F, G.E. Philippines Bldg., Pasong Tamo Extension, Makati. It is open 10 a.m.-6 p.m., Monday-Saturday. Call 8932905 or 8932908.



A MELLOW yellow arrangement of Dancing Lady orchids and Mickey Mouse fruits
ROMY HOMILLADA

Masbateños raising funds for cathedral

PURELY PERSONAL

Josephine Darang

TO PAY the P5 million debt incurred in the restoration of the cathedral of St. Anthony de Padua in Masbate, Masbateños in Metro Manila will meet at 8 p.m., July 21, at the Garcia Villa and Balagtas Rooms of the Peninsula Hotel to generate pledges of financial support.

Antonio Aguilar Medina, former vice governor, asked the help of Cebu industrialist and lawyer Norberto Quisumbing, who is from Uson, Masbate, Reghis Romero of R2 Builders and PL Lim of the Peninsula.

Cory Quirino will co-host the event with Masbate Bishop Joel Baylon. Nolyn Cabahug and Deeda Barretto will sing.

Friends of Tony Medina—Ruby Lim, lawyer Bella Bermundo, Fiscal Pedro Salanga and Minda Torres—are picking up from where the original project left off. Project Cathedral Wings started the rebuilding in 2002 when Msgr. Quintin Ferraren was parish priest, with the blessing and full support of Bishop Baylon who succeeded Bishop Porfirio Iligan in 1998.

Msgr. Ferraren led the local fundraising drive, while the Bishop and several priests went to the United States to appeal for support. Project Cathedral Wings, led by lawyer Rainier Butalid, together with Rosemarie Ong, Lydia Monfort, Dr. Lalaine Rapadas and Jose Arollado, launched a fundraising campaign in Metro Manila.

The rehabilitation followed the plans of architect Rey Uy. It cost P25 million to come out with a beautiful cathedral, a magnificent altar and a place conducive to worship.

For the July 21 event, companies doing business in Masbate will be invited. Devotees of St. Anthony who wish to help can text Tony Medina at 0917-3894432 or make checks payable to St. Anthony de Padua Cathedral and send to Bishop Baylon.

Church history

Masbate began to be populated in the early 1880s. A certain Crispin Aguilar, a *pili* wax dealer, settled in an area close to the harbor. Other settlers followed and the place became a bustling trading community.

A small chapel was ordered built by the then governor. His wife chose the Immaculate Conception as patroness of the town.

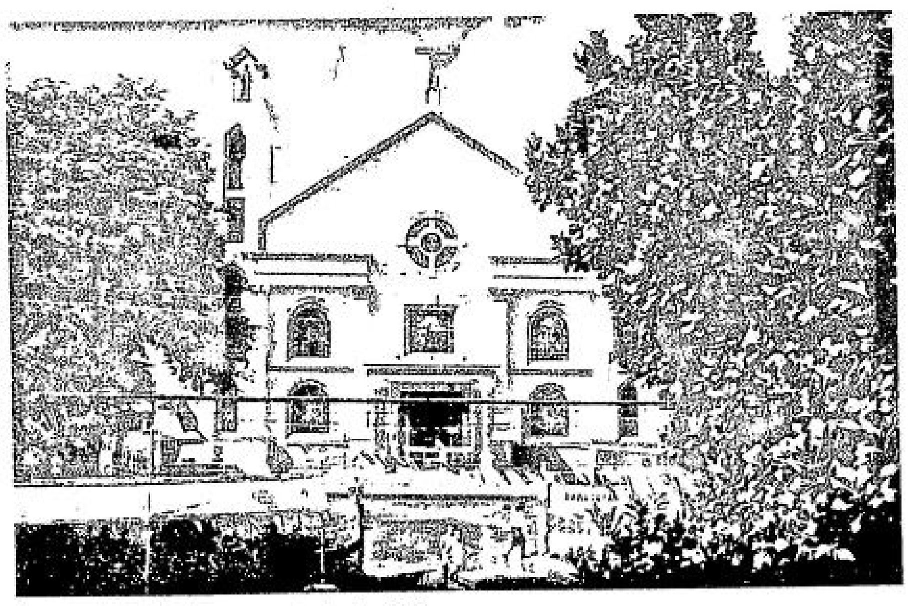
Toward the end of the 1880s a bigger church was constructed, after a fire destroyed the old chapel. The new church had stone walls and wooden posts.

According to stories, at this time, an image of St. Anthony of Padua was found in the garden of a certain Gregorio Villamor Medina. By popular acclaim, he became co-patron and, with the passing of time, the principal and only patron of Masbate.

Construction of the church began in 1954 though the initiative of Msgr. Arnulfo Arcilla who would become bishop of Sorsogon. The old structure, improved by the Bayot family in 1920, was demolished and concrete walls replaced the ones made of stone. Work was completed in 1959.

Further improvements were made in 1963. Black and white floor tiles were replaced with yellow and green (preserved in the present renovation). In 1966, the granolithic aisle was added.

The first major repairs and repainting of the church, elevated to the rank of cathedral when Masbate became a diocese in 1968, were done during the time of the first bishop of Masbate, the late Bishop Porfirio Iligan. Recently, a marble floor for the sanctuary was added.



ST. ANTHONY de Padua Cathedral in Masbate

ST. ANTHONY de Padua, patron of Masbate

Tony Medina, who is descended from Crispin Aguilar and Gregorio Medina, believes he is being guided to help the church as his ancestors did. To raise some money, Tony organized a golf tournament on March 18 and a dinner dance at the Philippine Columbian on April 8.

Devotion

San Fernando Archbishop Panciano Aniceto recalls that, as a young seminarian in 1956, the canonical coronation of Virgen de los Remedios was rained out. Everyone who was in the town plaza of San Fernando was soaking wet. His not getting sick then he attributed to the Virgin's love for him.

Today Archbishop Aniceto leads the yearly reenactment of the canonical coronation. Some 40,000 people are expected.

Josephine Flores-Miranda continues to serve the Virgin by propagating the devotion taught her by her mother. She and her husband, Ulysses, crowned the Virgin in her shrine in Baliti, San Fernando on her feast day, the third Saturday of May. Fr. Mar Miranda is having the shrine restored.

People come from far away to pray to the Virgin asking for healing and the solution of their problems.

Help needed

Fr. Edward Gallora, DS, who became a priest with the help of our readers, says he is now the director of the San Vicente Parochial School and assistant priest of San Vicente Parish in Camarines Norte.

He wrote: "My initial evaluation of the school revealed that it needed improvements... [as well as] new classrooms. [Even] a portion of the library was converted into a temporary classroom. We also need audio-visual equipment and instructional materials but the classroom is the [most pressing need]. We aim to have the rooms ready for the start of classes in June." Please help by texting Fr. Gallora at 0916-3116193.

JOSIE and Ulysses Miranda crown Virgen de los Remedios.

Retreat

Anthony Aquino says he and Fr. Ted Gonzales, SJ, of the Center for Family Ministry are organizing retreats for young professionals.

Those interested can text him at 0917-8953192 or e-mail antaq4f87@yahoo.com

Child Jesus

A Mass to mark the feast day of Sto. Niño de Buena Obra will be held at 7:30 a.m., May 31, at the San Antonio Parish in Cavite City, according to the visionary Nila Almoradie.

One fine herb

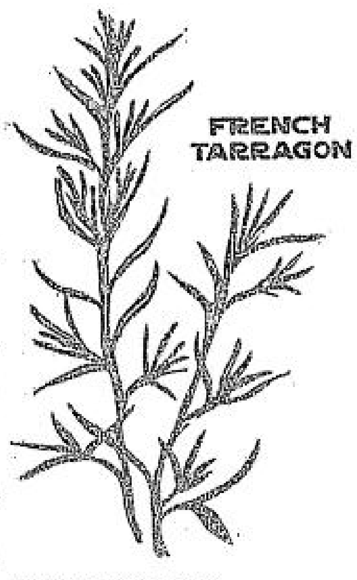


ILLUSTRATION BY STEPH BRAVO

By Serapion Metilla
Contributor

TARRAGON, a plant belonging to the Compositae family, is one of the subtlest of herbs.

GREEN TIPS

Alone or mixed with other herbs, tarragon goes well with foods of delicate flavor, such as eggs, chicken and veal. A food expert on exotic flavors says tarragon is part of the classic *fines herbes* mixture, which is good for sauces, hot or cold soups.

The *fines herbes* mixture is basic to the classic cuisine of France. It consists of equal parts of chervil, tarragon, parsley and chives. Occasionally, other herbs are added such as basil, fennel, oregano, sage and saffron.

The mixture is recommended for omelets. It is also ideal for herb sauce.

Tarragon is available in two varieties: French (*Artemisia dracunculus*) and Russian (*Artemisia dracunculoides*). The French species has finer leaves. It is also more flavorful than the Russian variety.

Tarragons are perennial, bushy shrub growing up to two to three feet high. They have narrow green leaves and spikes of greenish-yellow flowers in July and August. French tarragon is now commonly grown in the Philippines.

Tarragon can be propagated easily. Gather top cuttings, about an inch high, and insert into a potting mixture of one part river sand, one part garden soil, one part coco *coir* dust and one part rice hull in plastic seedling bags, two to three cuttings per bag.

Place in a shady but well-lighted place and keep constantly moist. When established, after about 10 or more days, transfer to a partially or sunny location. If the sun is too strong, place a single netting overhead. Don't fail to water plants every morning.

The tarragon's essential oil is volatile, but potent. It is lost when dried. The fresh herb can be cooked or used in vinegar, wine sauces and marinades.

You can use tarragon for this exotic drink I concocted:

Mix one part *buko* juice (for example one gallon) and the same amount of *pandan* juice. To make the *pandan* juice, boil 12-15 pieces of mature *pandan mabango* leaves in one gallon of water and freeze in ice bags overnight.

When serving, mix the frozen *pandan* juice (crushed) and sugar (according to taste) to the *buko* juice, then add a half-cup of chopped tender tarragon leaves.

Call 9394593 or 4352479.

CHAITANYA Das Tamayo demonstrates a yoga head stand or "*sirasana*." Yoga, an exercise that helps promote mental and spiritual health, aside from its physical benefits, is best practiced in spots that encourage rest, relaxation and meditation. The Ponderosa Leisure Farms theme gardens El Refugio and the soon-to-be-launched El Sanctuario are most suited for this purpose. Located in Silang, Cavite, Ponderosa Leisure Farms is a 53-hectare residential community developed by Landco Pacific Corp., in partnership with Ponderosa Farms, Inc. Call 8093853 or visit www.leisurefarms.com

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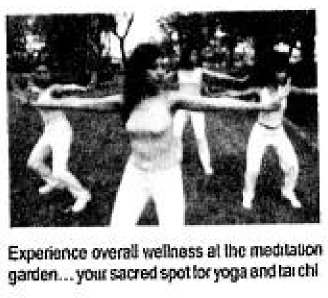

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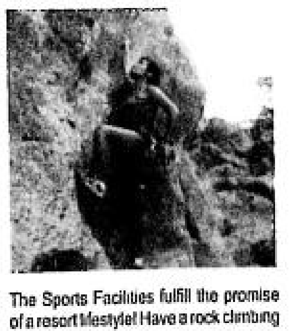

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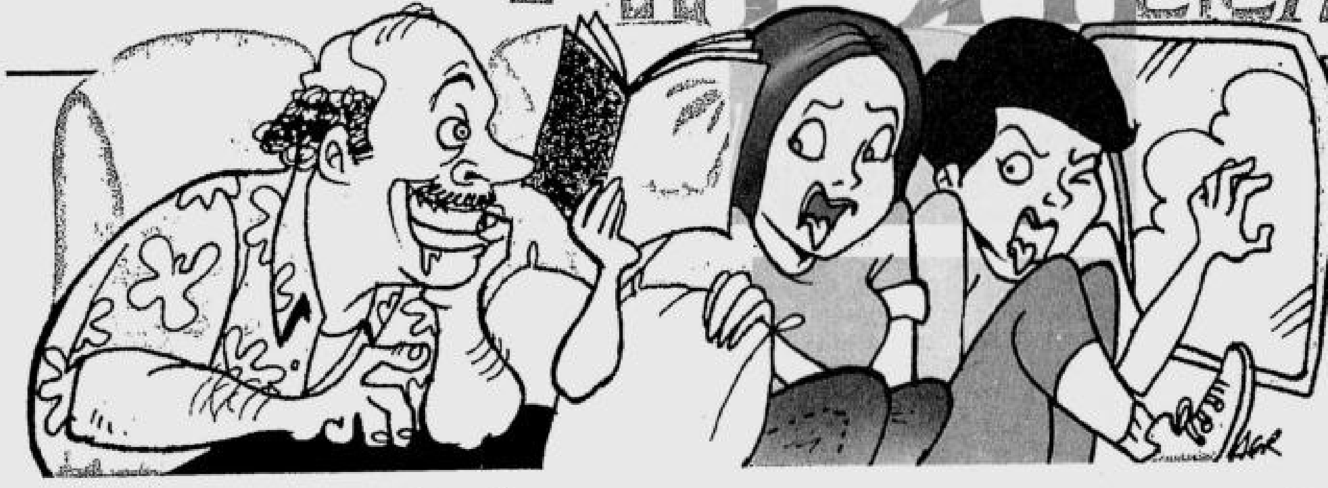

ALBERT G. RODRIGUEZ

What can women do to protect themselves from lascivious advances in-flight? And how can airline personnel help them? Female frequent flyers, beware!

Sexual harassment in the skies

By Pam Pastor

THE POSSIBILITY of crashing, motion sickness, cramped legs, lost baggage—these are the common fears people face when boarding a plane.

But a recent flight from Los Angeles to Hong Kong opened my eyes to another one.

A journalist from another paper and I were standing in line at LAX, waiting to board our flight to Hong Kong, when an American behind me started talking to us.

"You guys are speaking Tagalog, huh?"

What could have been innocent small talk stretched into an uncomfortable conversation. He talked about his "beautiful but crazy" Filipino ex-wife and how friendly the girls were in Angeles City. He kept asking us if we liked going to Ermita. The continuous mention of red-light districts started to alarm me.

We inched away from him but our one-word replies didn't put him off. He asked if I was single. I said no. He asked if I had babies. I said no. "You look so young," he said repeatedly.

He said he missed *lumpiang* Shanghai and he needed a Filipino wife to cook it for him. He also asked me if I had *pancit* canton in my bag.

Horror

After finally boarding the plane, my relief was cut short.

"Oh my, I'm seated beside you. How lucky am I?," said the ugly American. "When I see a Filipina, it makes me hungry." His comment made my stomach lurch. I couldn't bear the thought of going through this ordeal for the next 14 hours.

When he went to the lavatory, my companion and I called the flight attendant and asked if we could switch seats. She was unfriendly, curtly saying she'd check if there were empty ones after the plane's door was shut.

While the man was in the restroom, my anxiety was building. I did not want to be stuck beside him for the whole flight. And when I saw him returning, I jumped out of my seat and made my way toward the back, in search of empty seats.

The flight attendant blocked my path. "Where are you going?"

I stared into her eyes, sure that my panic was evident. "Please. I need to switch seats."

"Sorry. I did not find any seats," she snapped at me although I did see two empty seats near us. Not wanting to make a scene, I let her lead me back to my seat. I felt trapped.

Best way

My companion and I decided that sleeping was probably the best way to stop Mr. X from talking to us. So when he asked if I had any *adobo* hidden in my bag, I covered myself with a blanket, hid my face behind a pillow and forced myself to sleep. For the next six hours, I drifted in and out of sleep. Even when awake, I pretended to be asleep. But he wasn't making it easy. He was so big that his arm extended to my space and his thighs had spread out to my side of the seat. I elbowed him a number of times, trying to make him move his arm away from me but he didn't budge.

When I woke up, he said, "Oh, you're awake now, huh? You've been sleeping for a long time." I ignored him. I didn't eat, not wanting to give him the chance to talk to me again and I continued to ignore all his attempts to start a conversation.

The next few hours felt like eternity. When the plane was finally landing in Hong Kong, he asked, "What time is your flight to Manila?" I completely turned my back on him.

When the man realized he wasn't going to get anything from us, he turned to the Singaporean girl seated behind us. He used the exact same lines. It reminded me of the "Oprah" episode which showed how sexual predators operated. We refused to move until he had stepped out of the plane. I felt so dirty and drained. It was the worst flight of my life.

Worse encounters

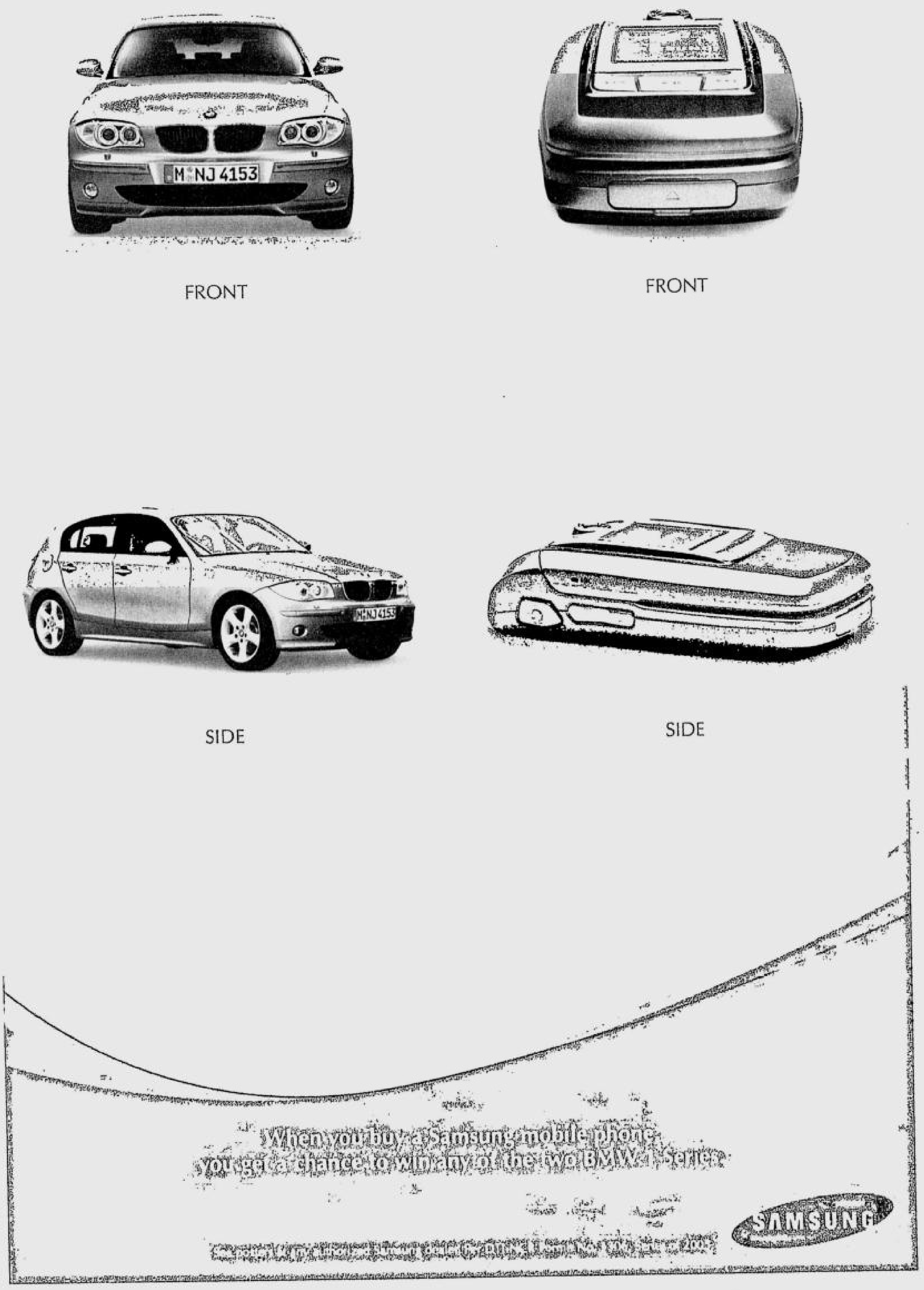
But I should still consider myself lucky. Other women have had far worse encounters with persistent men in-flight.

April was on a flight from Bangkok to Manila when a European backpacker, who was evidently drunk, started hitting on her.

"Let's share a blanket," he said to her. She ignored his request. "I'll be in Manila for three hours. Would you like to keep me company?"

She approached a flight attendant and said

SEXUAL/ E2



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Sexual harassment in the skies

From page E1

that the man was bothering her. "Ma'am, if he doesn't stop, please tell me again."

When he persisted, she approached the flight attendant again. She was promptly transferred to a business-class seat.

Brenda, who was traveling in business class from San Francisco to Hong Kong, had a worse experience. As she slept, the man who was seated beside her was enjoying the liquor being served in-flight. When she woke up, he was drunk. He took her glass of water and drank it and dipped his hand into the glass. He took the potato chips and dip she had brought with her, ate them and threw his trash at her. He touched her, threatened her and spilled a glass of red wine all over her, ruining her pants.

Although she had continually ask the flight attendant for assistance, it was only after the man dumped wine on her that her call for help was finally heeded.

Not uncommon

Apparently, cases of bad behavior aboard planes aren't as uncommon as they seem.

According to Eurocockpit.com, rowdy behavior—including sexual harassment and drunkenness—by passengers on Japanese airlines increased by over 200 percent to 330 cases in 1999. It has gotten so bad that the airlines have resorted to using adhesive tape and other restraining devices to control unruly passengers.

Indiainfo.com and spectator.net both tell the story of a respected professor of mathematical economics at the Otaru University of Commerce in Sapporo, Japan, who was on his way to an economics conference in Seattle. He was arrested after his flight landed at the San Francisco International Airport five years ago, after a female passenger who was seated next to him complained that he had placed his hand under her blanket and between her thighs a few hours after the plane took off from Japan.

Just three months ago, Pakistan's National Assembly suspended an official accused of sexually harassing a female passenger during a six-hour flight from Washington to London.

In 2000, because of the growing number of undesirable incidents, a Swiss court ruled that it's "okay" for flight attendants to slap passengers who made unwanted sexual advances.

While most airlines have yet to recognize the problem of in-flight harassment, recent newspaper reports said the Japan railway system had started to have train compartments exclusively for women. The drastic move was made following complaints from women who were touched, fondled and subjected to all sorts of indignities by men in packed cars particularly during rush hours.

Training

In moments like these, especially for women who are traveling alone, the only allies are the flight attendants. We asked our flag carrier, Philippine Airlines, how they trained their flight attendants to face these situations.

Carol Victorino, PAL's international line administrator, said, "Our mantra is maximum tolerance. We are never aggressive toward our passengers. We don't want to take sides. We will always be for what is fair. We want them to feel safe flying with us, we don't want them to feel endangered. In case there are problems between two passengers, our crew can talk to them and try to diffuse the situation. If we're not fully loaded, we can have them change seats."

She said, so far, PAL hadn't encountered major situations in-flight. But she's confident that they could deal with it. "We have steps on what to do. We teach our crew that something that is not pleasant can always be turned around. It's how you handle it. There's service and incident recovery. We want to make sure everyone's happy on that flight."

All flight attendants from all airlines undergo different forms of preparation and exercise. But how they translate their training into action on real flights is entirely up to them.

It has to be said that it is greatly disappointing when a flight attendant does not listen to a passenger's concerns during a flight.

One frequent flyer said, "The role of the flight attendant is to be the representative of the airline. Her non-action [would be] wrong on [different] levels—simple customer service and simple common decency on a human level. It doesn't matter if you're a multimillion flier or a casual flyer, you should be helped in your situation."

What to do

What should you do if you find you are subjected to unwanted sexual advances—or even sexual harassment—during a flight?

Frequent travelers and members of Flyertalk.com have a lot of ideas.

Say no. If someone on the plane starts to make you feel uncomfortable and keeps bothering you with unwanted sexual advances and unruly behavior, firmly reject his or her actions.

Approach the flight attendants and bring up your rights as a passenger. Hoboken1K says, "Appeal to their sense of professionalism. I had a situation where I simply approached the purser discreetly and said, 'This is not the kind of atmosphere your airline expects in a premium cabin, and that behavior really must stop.'"

One flight attendant on Flyertalk.com gave words of wisdom: "If you can't get the flight attendant to remedy the situation, hang out in the galley. If they tell you to sit down, tell them you fear for your safety. That should set the wheels into motion."

Stay calm. Hysteria and panic may be misconstrued. There is a danger that you would be considered the threat to safety if you allow yourself to go out of control. Flyinbob said, "While keeping calm and professional, demand that action be taken to resolve the matter then and there."

If the flight attendant refuses to help you, ask to speak to the pilot.

Ask other people for help. Rives21 said, "If a woman is being harassed by some drunk jerk on a flight and she approached me for help, I would have been very happy to assist. Most guys may not have known that you were having trouble... but if you made an outright request, I bet at least a half-dozen guys would have jumped to your aid."

Get the contact info and names of passengers who witnessed the incident. This way, when you make your complaint official, you have witnesses to back you up.

If the case is serious, request that proper authorities be present when you land. UNITED959 said, "As a final measure, I would approach the flight attendant and say, 'I know there's not much you can do about this, but I would like to press charges against this passenger once we're on the ground. Can you be sure the captain requests the authorities to be present at our destination?' "

After landing, file a complaint with the airline. Put it down in writing. And when the response isn't what you expect, write again.

When Brenda wrote the airline's customer-service department, she was told the airline shouldn't be held responsible for the action of other passengers. The airline even wrote to her that, "Regretfully, during flight our options are limited, especially when the flight is full."

She decided to write to a high airline executive. It was only after she did that that they called her and apologized for the bad experience and the inaction of the flight attendant. They also gave her a travel voucher and refunded her upgrade.

Airlines should appreciate passengers who take the time to file a report. Billhar said on flyertalk.com, "There once was an old saying that a business should welcome and take care of a customer that complains. That customer has given you a second chance. A business needs to worry about a customer that has a problem and doesn't complain because you have lost not only that customer but possible others since a dissatisfied customer will tell their story to at least 10 other people."

Although there are things you can do as a passenger, this does not take away the accountability of the airline. And there is much to be expected from them. You do pay for their service, after all.

Keeping us safe while we are in the confines of an airplane is the responsibility of the airline, the pilots and the flight attendants. Only with their proper action can we truly claim our right to fly free from harassment of any kind.

E-mail the author at ppastor@inquirer.com.ph

SUNDAY CROSSWORD

PREMIER CROSSWORD/ By Frank A. Longo

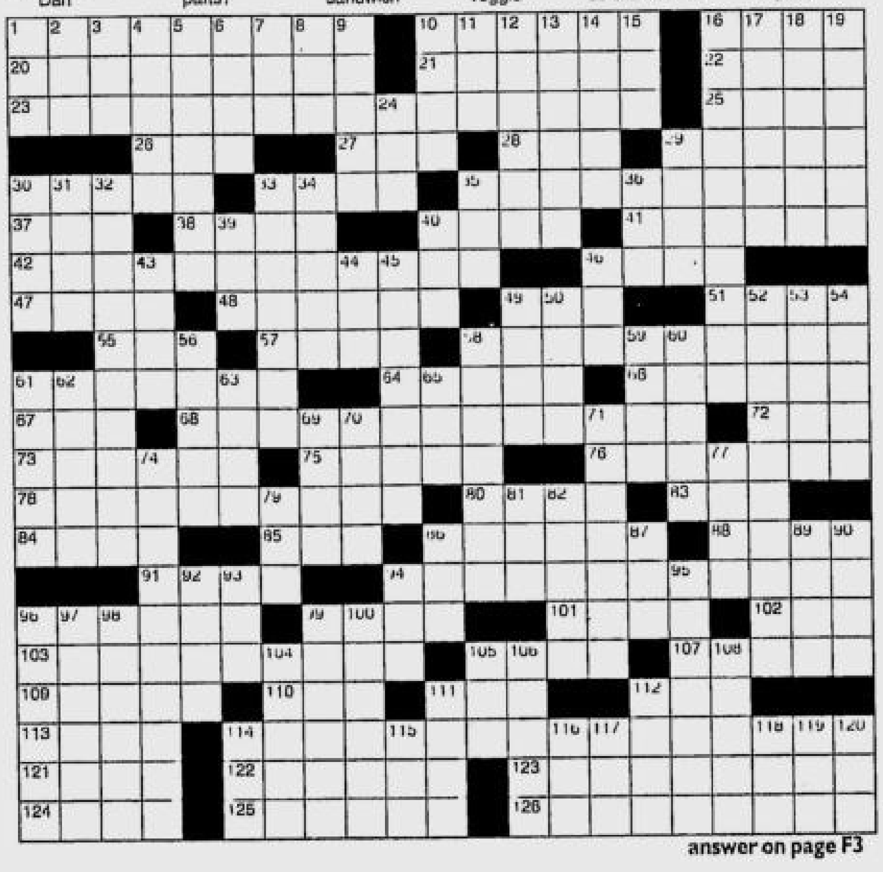
OF COLORS

ACROSS

1 Like windows during a hurricane, often
10 Hit on the head
16 Fizzy drink
20 Not capitalized
21 Discounted
22 Pub pints
23 Note from a price-fixing group?
25 Photog. masters
26 Kwik-E-Mart clerk on "The Simpsons"
27 Just a — (slightly)
28 See 99-Across
29 Mall unit
30 Bellyache
33 — -bitsy
35 Actor Sinise emulates Ahab?
37 Swiss river
38 "— Lama Ding Dong"
40 Saga, e.g.
41 Act introducers
42 Hide mules in the ground?
46 Earth sci.
47 Nobelist Wiesel
48 Rock's — Dan
49 Former Delta rival
51 Beginning on
55 Leg, slangily
57 Inland sea of Asia
58 Military uniform made of semisheer fabric?
61 Anne Frank, notably
64 Ache (for)
66 Former PLO head
67 Toronto loc.
68 Rap star's feminine side?
72 Comic Philips
73 Soap actress Hall
75 Les — -Unis (America, in Amiens)
76 Ensnared
78 Celebration of all artistic styles?
80 Extremely long time
83 Actress West
84 Border
85 Firm VIP
86 Carnegie or Mellon
88 "Like — not!"
91 — -Ball (arcade classic)
94 Too dry, as engine parts?
96 Pursued
99 With 28-Across, thick carpet
101 Very old school
102 Shred
103 Large-capacity papermaking machine?
105 Fraternal org.
107 Feature carriers
109 Charged, as to attack
110 Car-towing gp.
111 Snakelike swimmer
112 Heat source
113 Port of Yemen
114 Concerns when taking extremely exact measurements of a forage plant?
121 "Get used —!"
122 Double boxing blow
123 1959 Phil Phillips hit
124 Ceases
125 Jumbles
126 Disappears like Frosty

DOWN

1 Diner sandwich
2 Amazed cry
3 Overwhelm
4 Summary
5 Dealers in cloth, in Dover
6 Light tan
7 "Can't Help Lovin' — Man"
8 Utilize
9 Animal skins
10 Courageous
11 Ending for ethyl
12 Of stars
13 Disposition
14 Sad song
15 Actor James Van — Beek
16 City near San Jose
17 Enthusiastic bullring cry
18 Ph.D., e.g.
19 Evaluate
24 Declare
29 Jerk
30 Actor Kaplan
31 Baseballer Mondesi
32 Piping in water to
33 Copy
34 Slender candle
35 Car fuel
36 Minuscule
39 Capp and Capone
40 Give it a shot
43 YTD part
44 Pot-pie veggie
45 Clampett daughter
46 Guy's date
49 Actress Spelling
50 — -Dixie (supermarket chain)
52 Uneventful flight back, e.g.
53 2004 Democratic National Convention keynote speaker
54 Camera setting
56 British bishop's hat
58 "Good Will Hunting" director Gus
59 Bring in
60 Reverie
61 Evade
62 "— a drink!"
63 Doo-wop's — and the Limelites
65 Sup
69 Had being
70 Director Preminger
71 Breakfast nook
74 Suit bottom
77 Kite part
79 Winning serve
81 Tokyo, once
82 Gluck's "— ed Euridice"
86 Jul. follower
87 One of the five W's
89 Tony's cousin
90 Agents, briefly
92 Retained
93 End of a university URL
94 Paddle
95 Devours
96 S&L stat
97 Like some collisions
98 Vergil epic
99 Interstices
100 Breast beaters
104 Singer Frankie
105 Wanna- — (emulators)
106 Suffix with cyto- or proto-
108 — Gay (WWII plane)
111 Abel's nephew
112 Dundee resident
114 Tattoo word
115 Be a debtor
116 Maiden name preceder
117 — segno (from the repeat sign, in music)
118 Pledge
119 Actress Gabor
120 Manna del —, CA



answer on page F3

TRAVELBRIEFS

World travel fair in Korea

TOURISM Sec. Joseph Ace Durano joins the opening ceremony of the 18th Korea World Travel Fair at the Convention and Exhibition Center in Seoul on June 1 as special guest of honor. KOTFA is the leading international travel show in Korea.

Batangas food trip

INSCRIBE Tours marks Independence Day with a tour of the cultural landmarks of Batangas on June 11. Participants will also indulge in the cuisine of Batangas at Hotel Pontefino. Call 8405912/ 5758370.

South African wilderness

CATHAY Pacific is making a last call for applicants to the annual International Wilderness Experience, an adventure trip on July 26-Aug. 5 to Johannesburg, South Africa. The last day of submission of applications is on May 21. Young people aged 16-18 are eligible to join the annual program. Interested applicants are required to submit a 500-word essay in English on any environmental topic of their choice, copy of their valid passport and a completed application form. Call 7571313/ 2313747.

Priority destination

THE DEPARTMENT of Tourism's Philippine Master Plan identifies Northern Palawan as a priority visitors' area that should be developed as a low volume, high value destination based on its natural heritage attractions. The place offers cultural and natural attractions. In Busuanga and Coron alone, the unspoiled beaches, coral covers, shipwrecks and game reserves are more than enough to fascinate visitors.

Sleek modern hotel in Tagaytay

HOTEL Dominique is a 5,200-sq.m. enclave of superlative rooms, top-of-the-line amenities and state-of-the-art design. Choose from suite, deluxe, superior rooms or *casita* (a free standing cottage with three beds and an attic ideal for large groups). Leisure and entertainment area features KTV rooms, billiard, air hockey, football, souvenir shop and

WORLD/ E3

THE SUNSETS at Verde Island Resort are romantic and dramatic.

World travel fair in Korea

From page E2

swimming pool. Hotel Dominique is located at Km 55 Aguinaldo Highway, Tagaytay City. Call 8208465/ 8264772/ 4130531.

Summer at The Pen

THE PENINSULA Manila offers the Sunburst Package. A total of two adults and two children 12 years old and below can stay together in one room. Up to two children six years old and below are entitled to a complimentary buffet breakfast at Nielsen's when accompanied by a registered guest. The package also includes a round-trip chauffeur-driven Mercedes Benz S320 limousine transfer to and from any of the three major malls in Makati on weekends, namely Greenbelt, Glorietta and Power Plant. The complimentary limousine service is available from 10 a.m. to 8 p.m. Call 8872888 extension 2205.

Celebrating Mayon

THE PROVINCE of Albay celebrates the legend of Mayon Volcano as it holds the Magayon Festival in observance of its founding day this May. The month-long festivity includes the Second Mayon Marathon, a youth eco-camp at Mayon Volcano National Park and a climb by the Bicol Federation of Mountaineers aimed at developing environmental consciousness among youths. There will also be agro-industrial and trade fairs, exhibit of artworks and vintage photographs, and a host of socio-civic activities. Call 0917-6280129 or 0919-7715209 or log on to www.albay.tourism.gov.ph.

Family outdoor fun

THE HERITAGE Park's manicured lawns are perfect for picnics and its wide open spaces are ideal for biking and kite-flying. The whole family can try fishing at the park's lagoon. The Heritage Park is located at Bayani Road, Fort Bonifacio, Taguig. Call 8452334 to 38.

The wonders of Cordillera

THERE is more to the Cordillera Administrative Region than just the Banaue Rice Terraces. Take for instance the province of Benguet, home to Baguio City and the Philippine Military Academy. Go through a 500-meter underground tunnel as part of the Balatoc Mining Tour in Itogon. Visit the Ambuklao and Binga Dams in Bokod. Shop for veggies, fruits and cut flowers in La Trinidad. Walk through vegetable terraces in Buguias. For photo galleries and additional information, visit www.discoverphil.net.

Majestic sunset

THE SUNSETS at Verde Island Resort are romantic and dramatic. Visit the place and take pleasure in this warm, lovely spectacle. Isla Verde is located south of Batangas City and north of Calapan, Oriental Mindoro. Call 7500466/ 7500470.

Discounted room rates

CAMP John Hay Manor in Baguio City will offer 50 percent off its published room rates on June 1-Sept. 30. Guests can enjoy the full amenities and facilities of the Manor for a minimum stay of two nights at the following reduced rates: Superior Room, P2,000 net per night, Deluxe Room, P2,250 net per night, One Bedroom Suite, P3,000 net per night, Two Bedroom Suite, P4,500 and Honeymoon Cottage, P5,000 net per night. Call 8450892/ 8450911.

New getaways in Boracay

SUNRESORTS, Inc. opens two island getaways in Boracay. Aside from The Sun Village Beachfront Resort, there are The Sun Village Central and The Sun Villa. The Sun Village Central is a boutique resort with 8 rooms that have private toilet and bath and cable TV. The Sun Villa has private toilet and bath with cable TV, a private pool and jacuzzi. The Sun Village Beachfront Resort has 24 air-conditioned rooms with private toilet and bath and cable TV. Call 8131338/ 8937293.

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b. Two (2) packs of Canon Paper Media with Promo Sticker
c. One (1) Genuine Canon Ink Twin Pack with Promo Sticker
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2. Only purchases from May 16 to July 30, 2005 will be covered by this promo.
3. Redemption period is from May 16, 2005 until September 30, 2005.
4. To redeem a FREE Deluxe SM Movie Card, present any of the following with customer's name, address and contact number written inside the carton at any SM Cinema ticket booth within the redemption period from May 16 to September 30, 2005:
a. Two (2) Genuine Canon Individual Ink cartons with Promo Sticker
b. Two (2) packs of Canon Paper Media with Promo Sticker
c. One (1) Genuine Canon Ink Twin Pack with Promo Sticker
d. One (1) Genuine Canon Individual Ink carton with Promo Sticker and One (1) pack of Canon Paper Media with Promo Sticker
5. Customers can claim their free movie card in the following SM Cinema ticket booths: SM North Edsa, SM Megamall, SM Centerpoint, SM Manila, SM Southmall, SM Bacoor, SM Fairview, SM Tutuban, SM Sucat, SM Cebu, SM Iloilo, SM Davao, SM Pampanga, SM Cagayan de Oro, SM Bicutan, SM Lucena, SM Baguio, SM Marilao, SM Dasmarinas, SM Batangas
6. SM Movie Cards are valid for one year after date of redemption.
7. Deluxe Movie Cards are good for single admission only and are not allowed on Premiere Showings and Advanced Screenings.
8. To use an SM Deluxe Movie Card, simply present it at any SM Cinema ticketing booth to swap for a ticket for any movie of choice.
9. Deluxe Movie Cards may be upgraded to a Premiere Movie Card with a minimal fee paid through the ticketing booth.

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If you want to do your part in building a strong Philippines, we invite you to learn more about the Kumon Method through a Free Franchise Orientation this June 7, 2005 from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm at the 19th floor Philamlife Tower, 8767 Paseo De Roxas, Makati City. For seat reservations, please call 885-0226.

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19th floor, Philamlife Tower, 8767 Paseo de Roxas, Makati City
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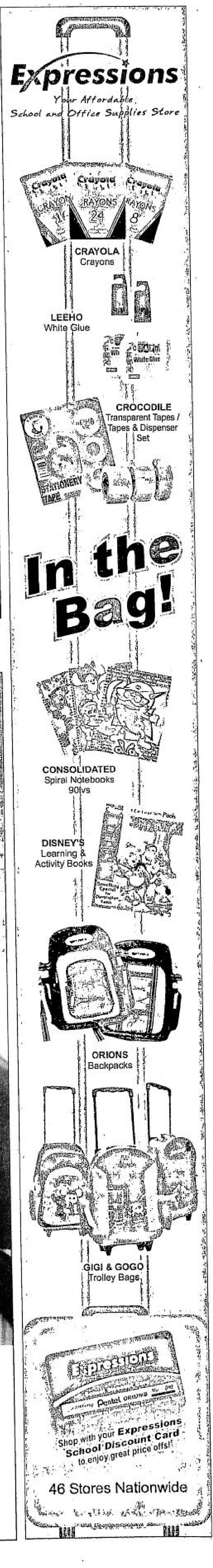
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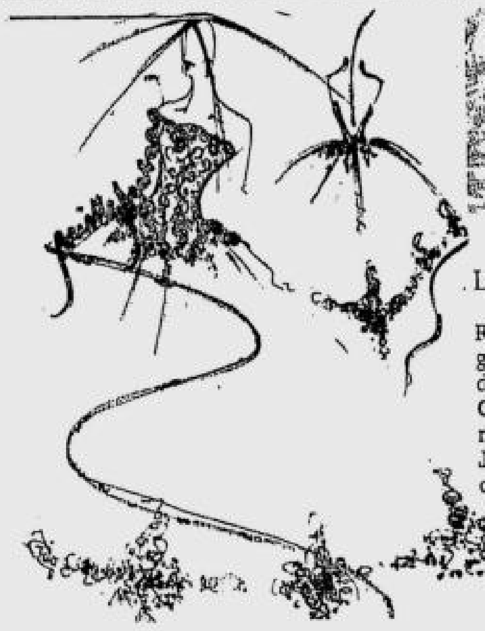

LEE-GALANG

Robert Rodrigueza Lee, son of Gov. **Raul R. Lee** and Mayor **Sally Ante Lee** of Sorsogon, will wed **Mary Grace Ancheta Galang**, daughter of Mr. and Ms. **Romeo Guzman Galang**, today at 5 p.m., at the Quezon Ballroom of Makati Shangri-La. Makati Mayor **Jejomar Binay** and Bro. **Ricky Sira** will officiate.

Arielle Agasang designed and executed a strapless tube top and bias bouffant skirt made of duchess satin and accented with Swarovski stones, cut beads, seed crystals, sea pearls and teardrop crystals.

PILLAS-GONZAL

Angelito Neville A. Pillas, son of lawyer **Angelito** and **Aurora Pillas**, exchanged vows yesterday with **Mylene C. Gonzal**, daughter of **Avelino** and **Imelda Gonzal**, at the Sta. Ursula Parish Church Binangonan, Rizal.

MANZON GOLDEN ANNIVERSARY

Francisco and **Norma Manzon** will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary with a thanksgiving Mass and reception at 4:30 p.m., June 4. Rev. Fr. **Boyet Montalbo** will be the main celebrant.

Club muse

Sabrina Calayan, 20, a business management graduate of De la Salle University, was the muse of Ugat Lucena's 23rd anniversary ball yesterday (May 28) at the Queen Margarette Hotel. This year's president of Ugat Lucena is **Reynaldo Calayan Jr.**, while **Flor Liza Jara-Obana** is lady president.

The muse is the daughter of Calayan, president and chief executive officer of Calmar Land Development Corp. and the former **Rebecca Aquino**.

Milestones

We're accepting announcements of weddings and engagements. Please send the following typewritten information: names of engaged couple, names of parents, date and place of wedding, gown designer and other related information. Readers can send sketches of gowns and pictures of the couple to the Inquirer *office, or P.O. Box 2353 Makati Central Post Office 1263 Makati City, or e-mail lifestyle@inquirer.com.ph. This will be printed depending on space availability and at no cost to the sender.*

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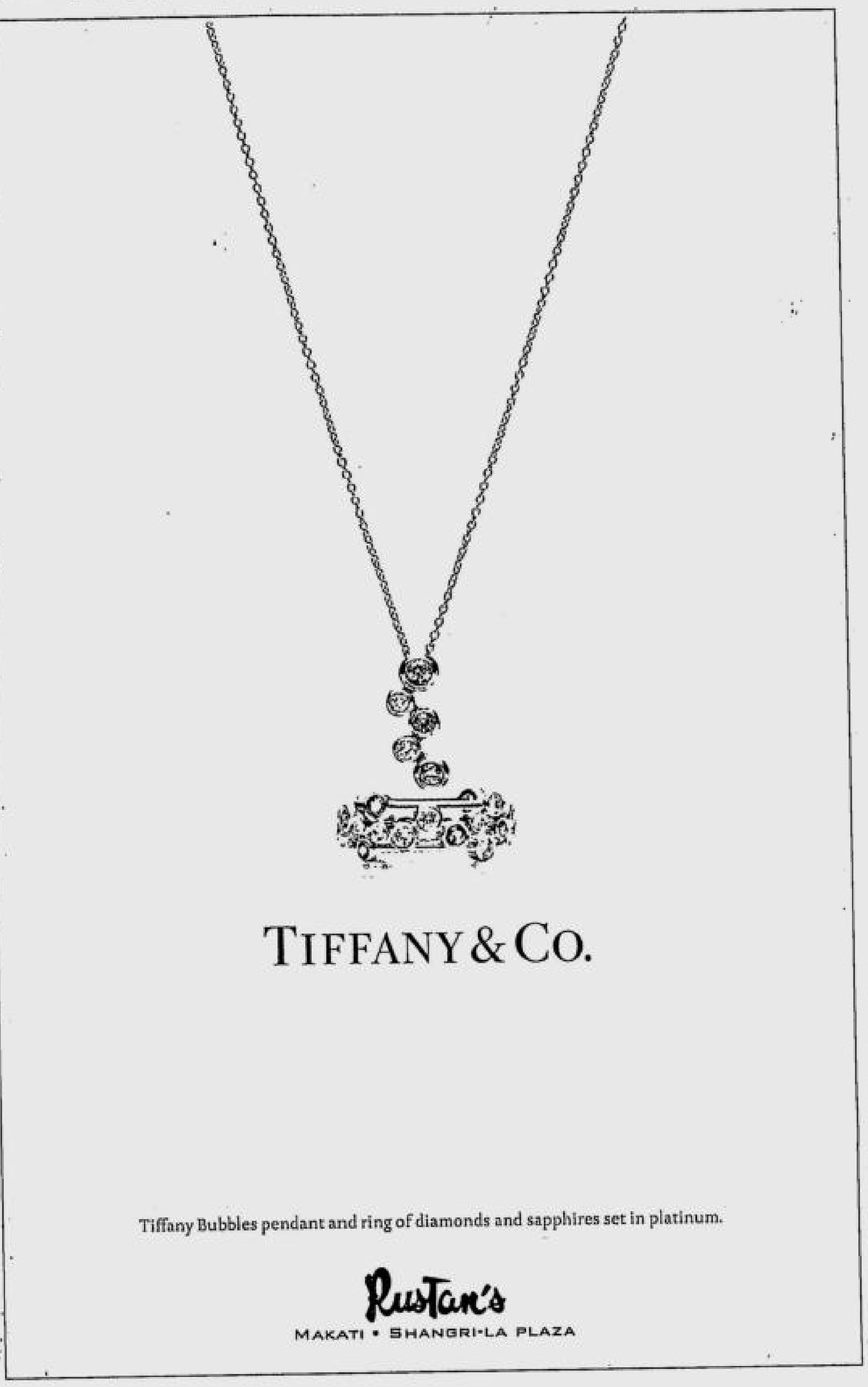

TIFFANY & CO.

Tiffany Bubbles pendant and ring of diamonds and sapphires set in platinum.

Rustan's
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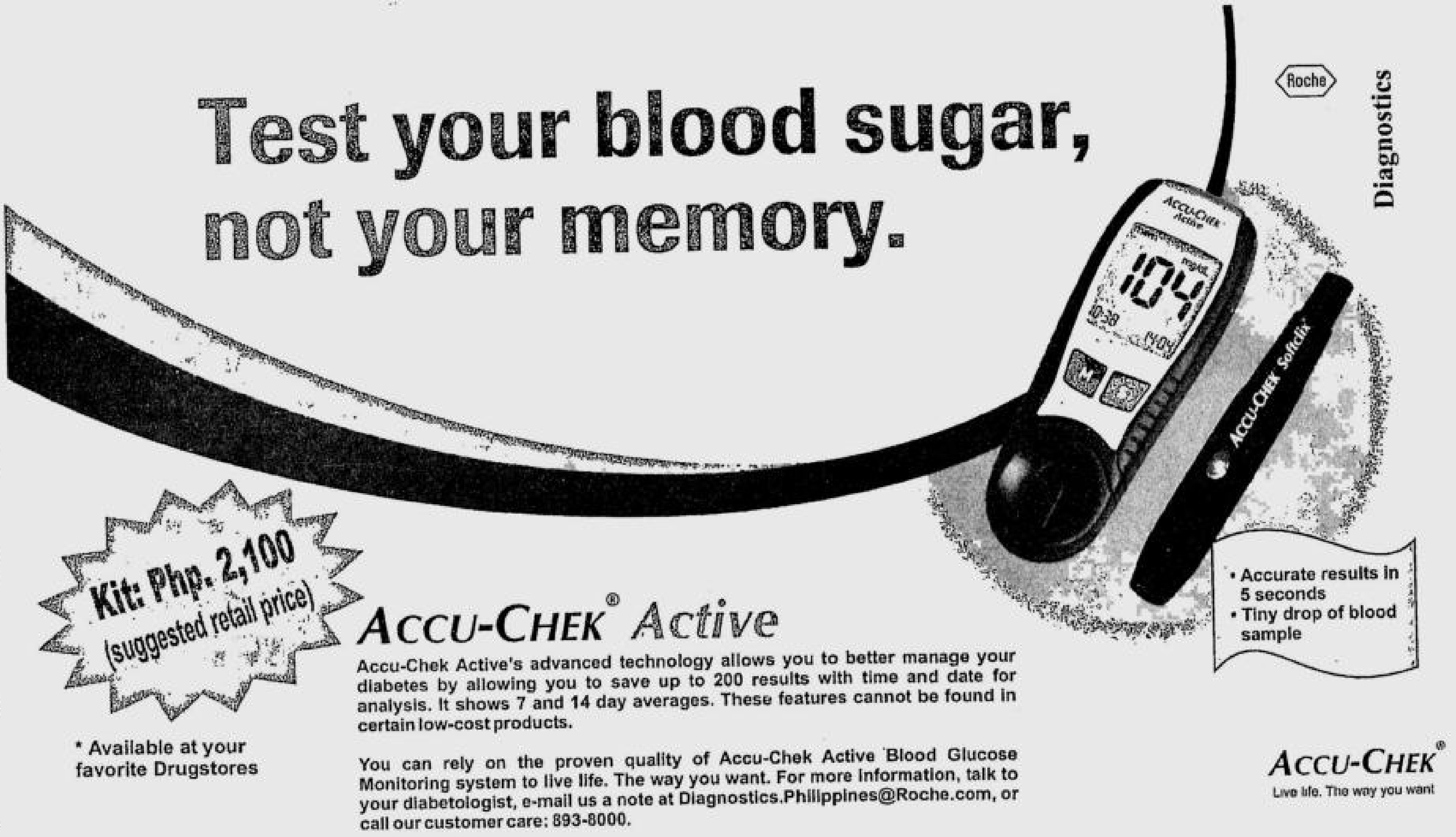

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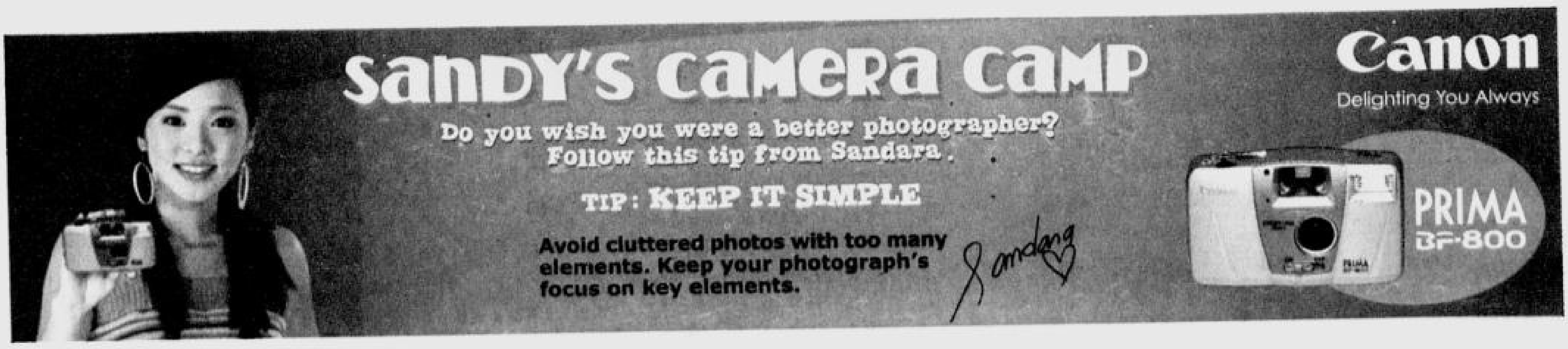

SANDY'S CAMERA CAMP

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Sandara

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THE COUPLE with INQUIRER president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez

DR. Manuel Lorenzo and Jesus Abrera Sr.

WITH THEIR CHILDREN Isa, Manix and Migs

Celebrating silver

JESSE and Dette Abrera

Just
MARRIED
again!

THE COUPLE'S version of the love bug

Text by Alex Y. Vergara
Photos by Joan Bondoc

WHEN Jess and Dette Abrera were married 25 years ago, the couple and their guests had such a grand time that the Abreras, especially Jess, wanted to do it all over again five years later. Of course, that wasn't possible.

But they finally got their wish during a recent renewal of vows marking their silver wedding anniversary at the Shrine of Our Lady of Peace and Good Voyage in Antipolo.

"The joy we felt hasn't diminished, but we were more relaxed this time around," says Jess, INQUIRER's resident editorial cartoonist and the guy to blame or praise—depending on which side of the fence you're in—for the comic strip "A. Lipin" and the wisecracking carabao mascot Guyito.

DR. Patria G. Lorenzo and Soledad P. Abrera

With hundreds of friends and relatives in attendance, Jess and Dette reaffirmed their love for each other during a concelebrated Mass led by Bishop Gabriel Reyes. Aside from the couples' parents (not only are they very much alive, their respective mothers have darker hair than the gray-haired Jess and Dette!), the presence of their three children Manix, Migs and Isa made the occasion doubly memorable.

"When I look at my kids," says Dette, a history professor at University of the Philippines, "I'm still amazed at how much they have grown. I've always thought of them as small children. The wonder of holding them as newborn infants and seeing them grow is part of the joys of being a parent."

Manix, also a cartoonist like his dad, is a fine arts graduate from UP. Migs is taking up anthropology also at UP, while Isa is still in grade school at Assumption College.

INQUIRER guests at the reception

Milestone

Because of their modest budget, the Abreras had originally wanted to mark this milestone in a small way. That meant limiting the guest list to close friends and immediate family members.

"Wedding anniversaries are ideal occasions to affirm the joys of married and family life," says Jess, who, like Dette, is a member of Couples for Christ and an ardent family advocate. "But as expenses begin to pile up, children are always the first people to be removed from the guest list."

When friends at St. Michael Retreat House in Antipolo, where the lunch reception was held, learned of their dilemma, they convinced the couple to invite as many people as they could. There was little reason to worry about the expenses, since their friends were charging them virtually nothing.

"If we had to pay for everything," says Dette, "we wouldn't have been able to invite that many. In the end, we ended up paying only for the cost of the ingredients. They did all the cooking for us."

The reception had the feel of a native fiesta, thanks to a native band composed of students from the Rizal Education System. Garbed in Filipiniana finery, the couple hopped from one table to another along the courtyard's periphery. A three-tiered fountain in the center of the courtyard added a touch of nostalgia to the summer party.

INQUIRER editorial cartoonist Jess Abrera and wife Dette renew their vows to mark their 25th wedding anniversary

Apart from renewing ties with friends, both old and new, the couple deems such an event as an ideal opportunity to take stock of their relationship not only in terms of their accomplishments, but also in terms of their adherence to the commitments they entered into when they were younger and presumably less mature.

"Now that we're older," says Dette, "we already know what marriage is all about. We've gone through the highs and lows of being together. We've seen a number of our married friends break up and reconcile again. Unlike the first time, we now know fully well what we're committing ourselves into."

Different accomplishment

For Jess, it's another way of showing to the world, especially their parents, a different kind of accomplishment that's usually not given the same importance as those related to school or the job.

"For us to stay this long as a married couple is also an achievement. It may sound simple to others, but it's still a cause for celebration," he says.

Of the two, Jess was admittedly the less spiritual one. He was, he says, first and foremost a nationalist before he became a vocal defender of the Catholic Church's teachings, particularly on the sanctity of marriage and human life. He has Dette to thank for insisting that they join Couples for Christ in 1998.

"Our being members helped a lot not only in strengthening our marriage, but also in sustaining our faith," says Dette. "After going through the difficulties of married life as well as the challenges that come with raising children, we realized how important it is to always make God present in our marriage."

Jess' newfound faith is invariably reflected in his work. Of late, for instance, he has become quite vocal about his opposition to population control.

Indeed, to people who once knew him, such a change of heart is a far cry from the Jess of old. Some have even called him a hypocrite. Although he has remained a practical joker, he has toned down his penchant for cracking green jokes.

"I still lapse into green jokes whenever Dette isn't around," he says with a laugh. "Seriously, I wouldn't have been able to do it without her. She has had a big influence in my life. I'm now a firm believer that it's the wife that makes the husband."

E-mail the author at avergara@inquirer.com.ph

FR. Leo Schmitt, SVD (the couple's parish priest for 24 years), Fr. Manuel Bongayan, SVD, Fr. Michael Millan, Bp. Gabriel Reyes, DD, Manix, Dette, Fr. Chito Lorenzo, SVD (parish priest of Akita, Japan), Jess, Isa, Msgr. Edgar Pan, Migs, Msgr. Rigoberto de Guzman, Msgr. Ralph Salazar, Fr. George Britos and Fr. Butch Cabildo

Milestones

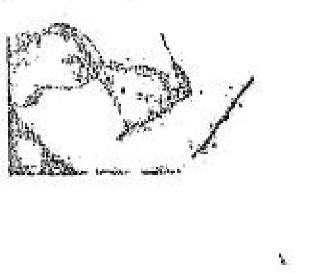
TAN-CHIONG

Michealangelo Tan, son of **Jimmy and Aida Tan** of Quezon City, will marry **Sunny-Marie Chiong**, daughter of **Dr. Robert and Sunny Chiong** of Manila, today at the Manila Cathedral. Reception will be at the Grand Ballroom of Century Park Hotel.

WASSMER-BAUTISTA

Angel Bautista, daughter of **Antonio Bautista and Victoria Apacible**, will exchange vows with **John Wassmer** at the Patio of Makati Shangri-La.

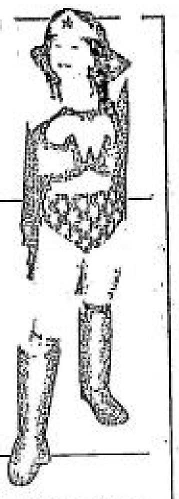
The bride will wear a drop-torso hanky hemline off-shoulder gown in duchess satin and silk chiffon, designed by **Raymund Saul.**



MAARAT 25TH ANNIVERSARY

Winefredo Maarat, son of **Lucio and Romana Maarat**, and **Nenita Olivar-Maarat**, daughter of **Telesforo Olivar** (deceased) and **Estrella Sarabello Olivar**, will renew their marriage vows to mark their silver anniversary on June 4 at the Shrine of Jesus, The Way, The Truth and The Life. Reception will follow at the Diamond Ballroom of Manila Diamond Hotel.

The bride will wear a two-piece ensemble in gazaar and metallic organza accentuated with Japan-cut beads and Austrian Swarovski crystals designed by **Edgar Racca and Jho Masinsin** of Okkasion.



TESSA!

It's a girl for Sea Princess!

Tessa Prieto-Valdes will resume her partying and her Sunday Lifestyle column as soon as baby Athena allows her.

ANSWER TO SUNDAY CROSSWORD

B	O	A	R	D	E	D	U	P	■	D	E	A	N	E	D	■	S	O	D	A
L	O	W	E	R	C	A	S	E	■	O	N	S	A	L	E	■	A	L	E	S
T	H	E	C	A	R	T	E	L	S	L	E	T	T	E	R	■	N	E	G	S
■	■	■	A	P	U	■	■	T	A	D	■	R	U	G	■	S	T	O	R	E
G	R	I	P	E	■	I	T	S	Y	■	G	A	R	Y	W	H	A	L	E	S
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E	L	I	E	■	S	T	E	E	L	Y	■	T	W	A	■	■	A	S	O	F
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D	E	I	D	R	E	■	E	T	A	T	S	■	■	I	N	A	T	R	A	P
G	E	N	R	E	P	A	R	T	Y	■	A	E	O	N	■	M	A	E	■	■
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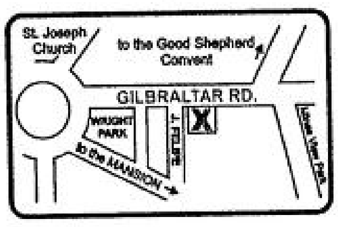

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Per DTI-NCR Permit No.1032, Series of 2005.

Milestones

TORRES - MENDOZA

Dr. Neil Stephen Angelo A. Torres, son of **Ernesto** and **Grace Torres**, will wed **Dr. Romina V. Mendoza**, daughter of engineer **Romeo** and **Nona Teresita Mendoza**, on June 5 at the Sta. Maria dela Strada Parish Church, Balay Kalinaw.

RAMOS-LAO

Edycon Ramos, son of **Freddie Ramos Sr.** and **Marylou Stoddard**, will wed **Leah Lao**, daughter of **Leon Lao Jr.** and **Jasmine Lao**, today at the Shrine of Jesus, the Way, the Truth and the Life, Central Business Park Reclamation Area, Pasay City. Reception will be at the Jade Garden Restaurant, Greenbelt, Makati City.

BULLOS-CAINO

Cristina Caino, daughter of **Cirilo** and **Leonora Caino**, married recently **Rain Bullos**, daughter of **Raul** and **Marina Bullos**, at the Basilica Minore (Malolos Cathedral) in Bulacan. Reception followed at the Alta Medical Arts Building, Ginhawa Crossing, Malolos City, Bulacan.

RABE 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Gabriel Manzanares Rabe and the former **Marina Rico**, both based in California, will celebrate their 50th wedding anniversary on June 11 at the Immaculate Heart of Mary Parish in Quezon City. Fr. **Romerico A. Prieto** will officiate at the renewal of vows. Reception will follow at the Grand Ballroom of Hotel Rembrandt.

Photo taken at Mandarin Oriental, Manila.

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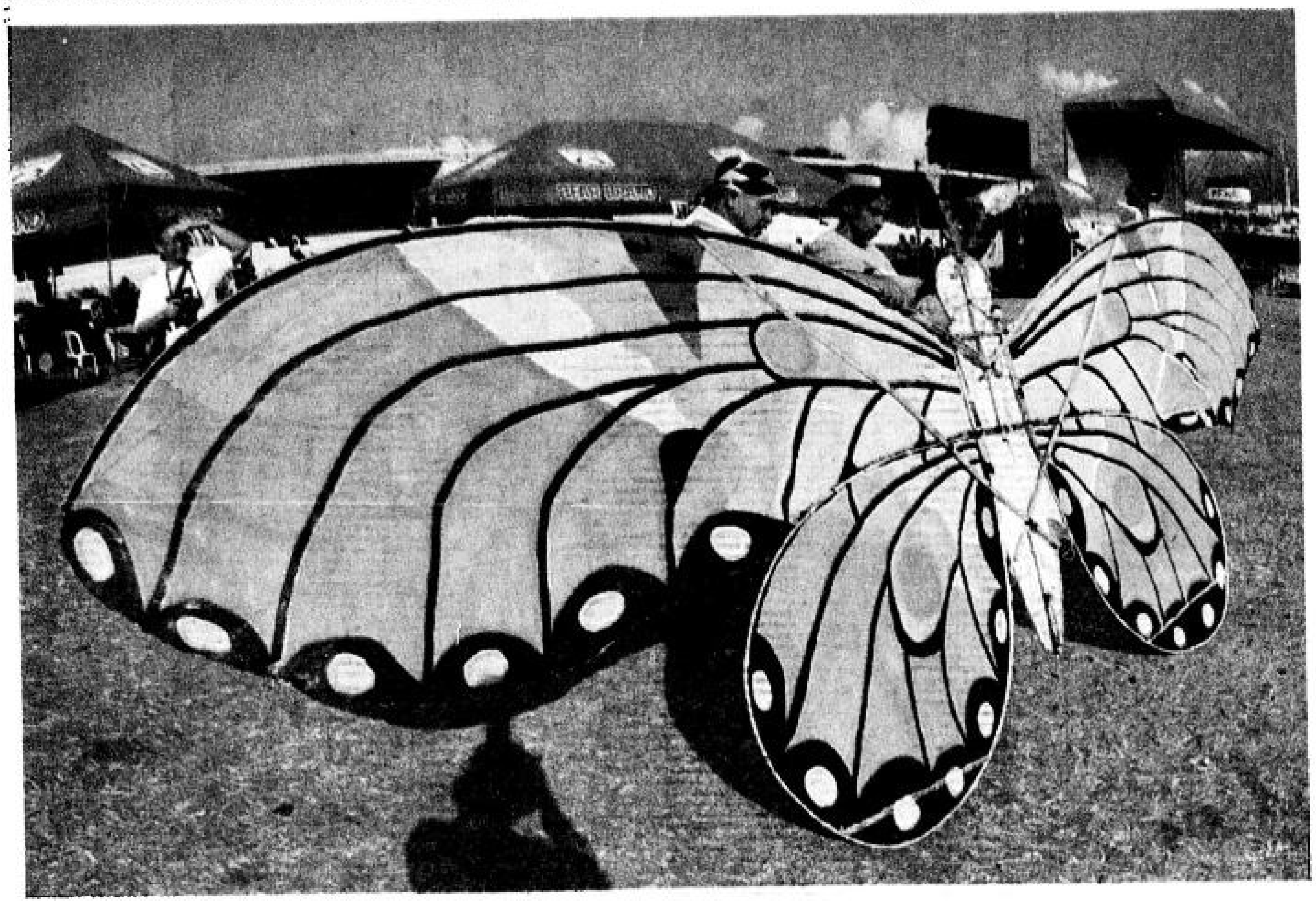

PARU-PARONG Bukid: The Bear Brand Kite Fest showcases Filipino creativity and artistry, as seen in this colorful butterfly entry.

Bringing in their most innovative and colorful creations, whole families signed up for the last stop of this year's Bear Brand kite-flying festivities

Flying high at 15

By Shirley Oh
Contributor

THE DAY was sweltering and the dust from the Rizal Park grounds seemed to cover every surface. But the families that attended the recent final leg of the 15th Bear Brand Kite Fest didn't mind the heat one bit.

Bringing in their most innovative and colorful creations, the families signed up for the last stop of this year's Bear Brand kite-flying festivities, joining in the different categories. The festival was a Philippine record-setting event for the most number of kites flown at one time.

"Ang Pasaway Kong Pusit." "Darna/Pasaway na Ethel Booba." "Delivery Boy." These were just some of the names of the ingeniously crafted kites that filled up and decorated the clear skies of Luneta that day.

Other noteworthy creations were the "Bahay Kubo, Kahit Munti" entry, a cubed kite made up as a little house complete with windows and a peaked roof, and "King Cobra," a long, tailed kite that flew gracefully in the breeze.

Contest commentators, which included "Eat... Bulaga!" host Ruby Rodriguez, kept up the energy with lively banter as the people watched the competition in delight and the judges picked out the best flyer among all the entries.

GMA 7's Sunday noontime show "S.O.P." held a remote broadcast of the Bear Brand event, as well as the presentation of the P1 million prize to Victoria Yao, the winner of the Bear Brand Kite ni Kapuso text raffle promo. Kite ni Kapuso celebrity endorsers Bearwin Meily, Ethel Booba and Teri Onor joined in the celebration, along with Manila government officials and S.O.P. hosts Karylle, Dingdong Dantes and KC Montero.

Performances by Keempee De Leon, K Brosas, Geneva Cruz and the Pinoy Pop Superstars also kept the crowd entertained despite the afternoon heat.

Family tradition

For Dr. Delfin Pilones of Santiago City, joining the Bear Brand Kite Fest has been a family tradition since 2003.

"Last year we joined the Baguio and Manila legs, and this year we also attended the Lingayen leg," he said.

Taking a few hours from his busy daily schedule to create his family's award-winning kites, Pilones shared how fulfilling the craft of kite-making is. "You need to make research on the design that will fly best and then you have to think of originality... It's not easy but it's fun when you see your end-product. It's all about imagination."

For the Manila leg, the Pilones family joined in a number of categories, one of which was the Team category, where groups of people were given only three hours to create their flying masterpiece for the final competition.

FLYING/ G4

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BY ROBERT WONG

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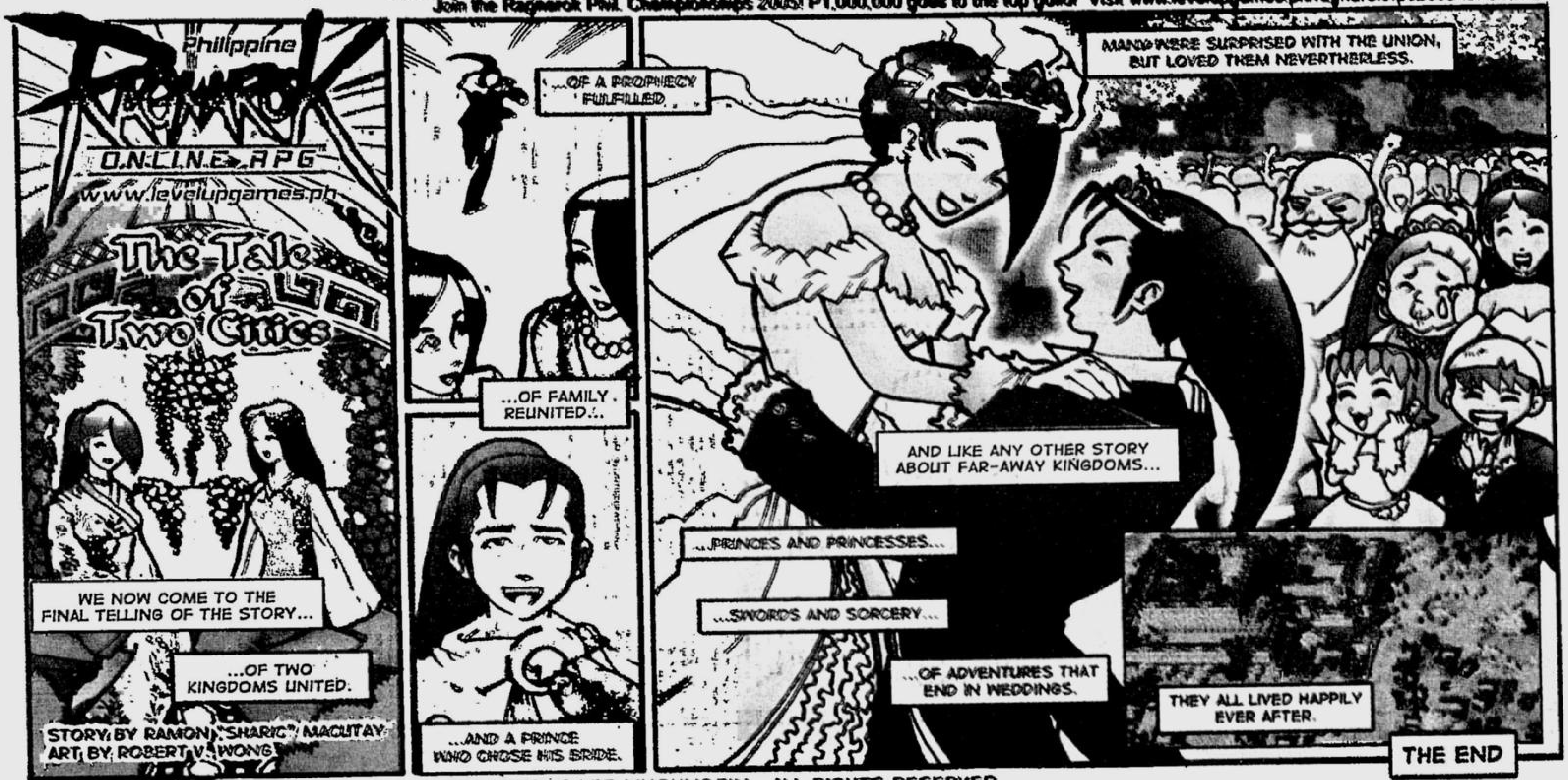
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MANY WERE SURPRISED WITH THE UNION, BUT LOVED THEM NEVERTHERLESS.
AND LIKE ANY OTHER STORY ABOUT FAR-AWAY KINGDOMS...
...PRINCES AND PRINCESSES...
...SWORDS AND SORCERY...
...OF ADVENTURES THAT END IN WEDDINGS.
THEY ALL LIVED HAPPILY EVER AFTER.
THE END

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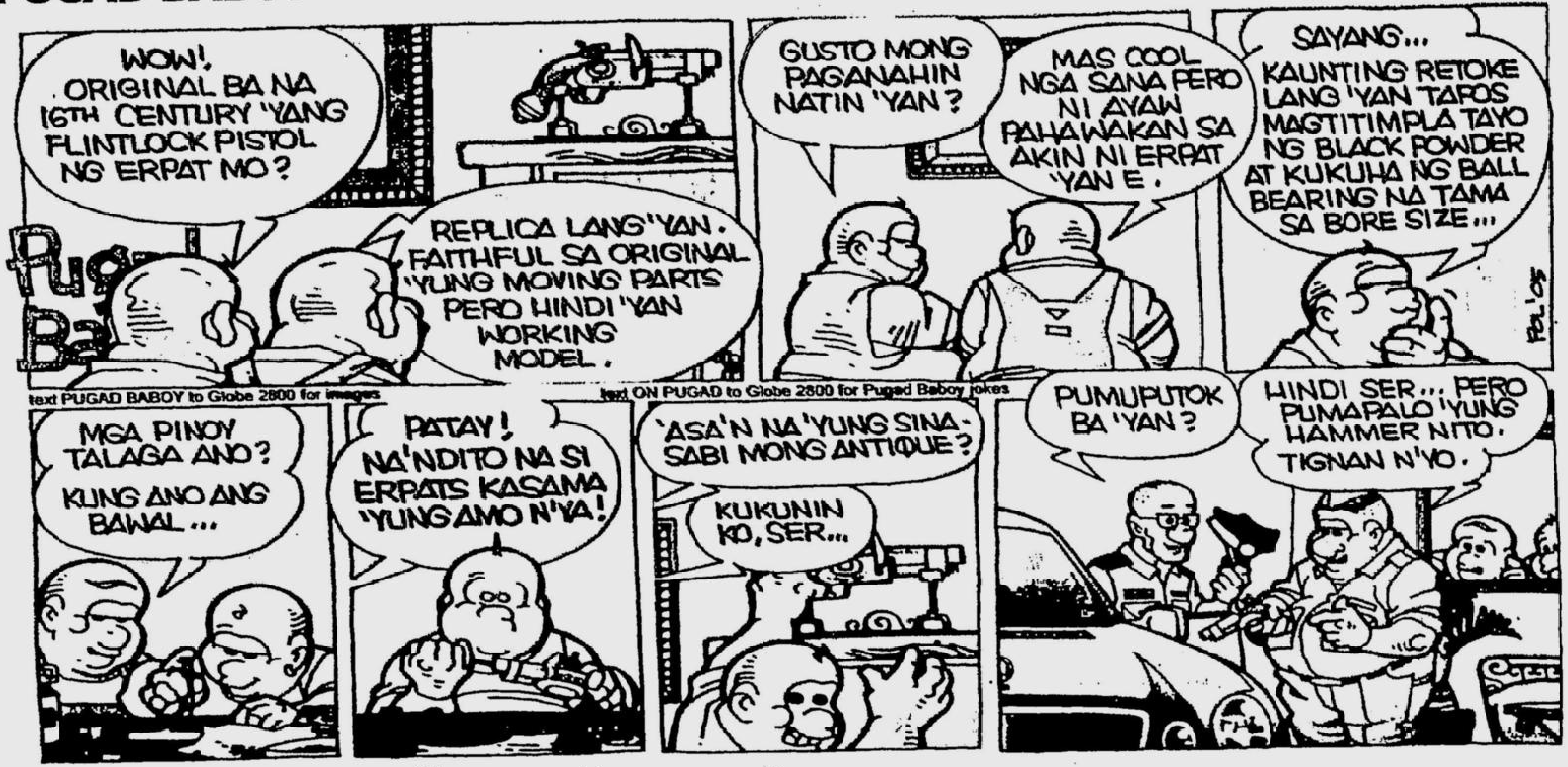
PUGAD BABOY

BY POL MEDINA JR.


Pugad Baboy
WOW! ORIGINAL BA NA 16TH CENTURY 'YANG FLINTLOCK PISTOL NG ERPAT MO?
REPLICA LANG 'YAN. FAITHFUL SA ORIGINAL 'YUNG MOVING PARTS PERO HINDI 'YAN WORKING MODEL.
GUSTO MONG PAGANAHIN NATIN 'YAN?
MAS COOL NGA SANA PERO NI AYAW PAHAWAKAN SA AKIN NI ERPAT 'YAN E.
SAYANG... KAUNTING RETOKE LANG 'YAN TAPOS MAGTITIMPLA TAYO NG BLACK POWDER AT KUKUHA NG BALL BEARING NA TAMA SA BORE SIZE...
POL '05
MGA PINOY TALAGA ANO?
KUNG ANO ANG BAWAL...
PATAY! NA'NDITO NA SI ERPATS KASAMA 'YUNG AMO N'YA!
'ASA'N NA 'YUNG SINASABI MONG ANTIQUE?
KUKUNIN KO, SER...
PUMUPUTOK BA 'YAN?
HINDI SER... PERO PUMAPALO 'YUNG HAMMER NITO. TIGNAN N'YO.

text PUGAD BABOY to Globe 2800 for images

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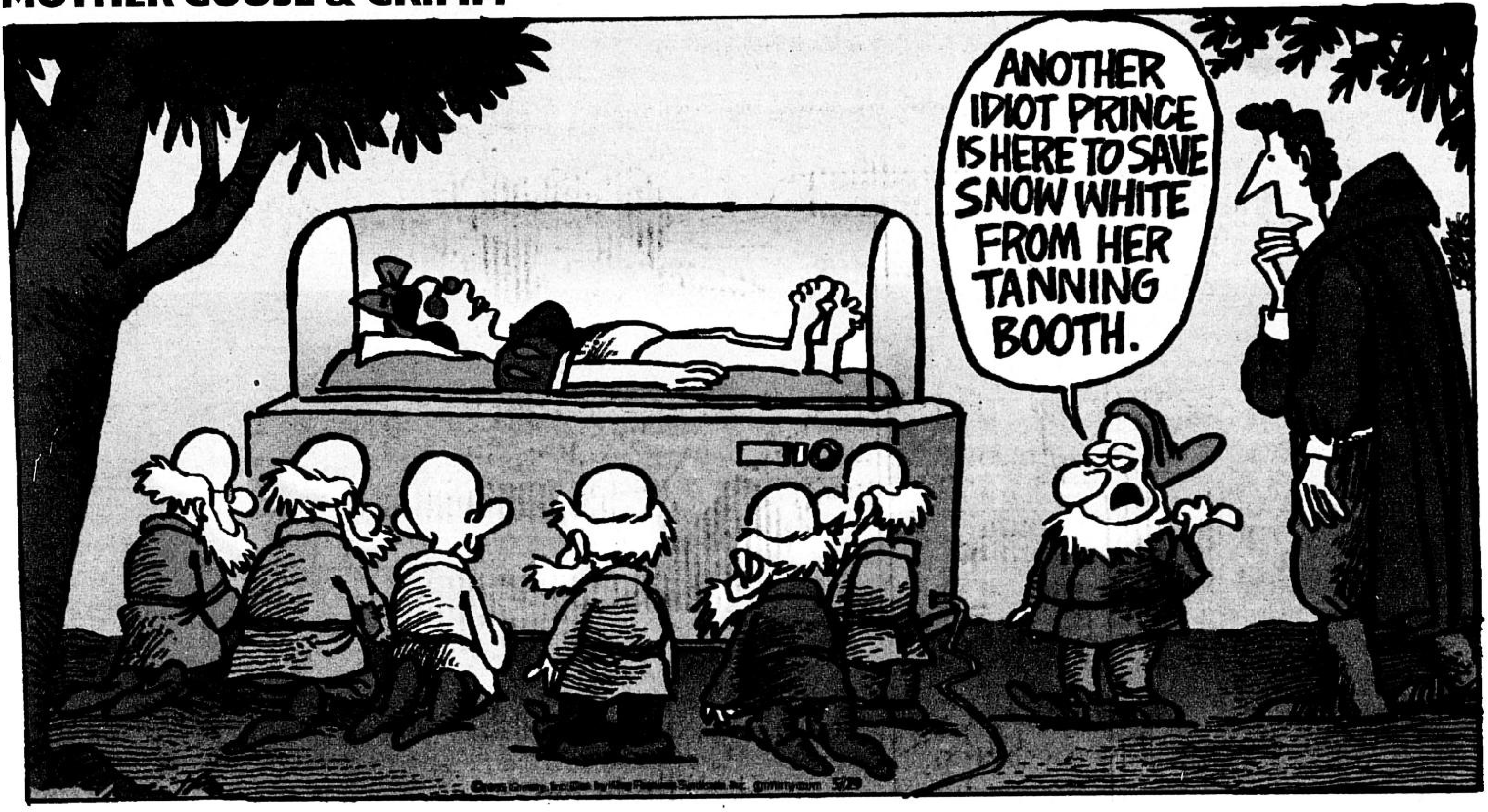
MOTHER GOOSE & GRIMM

BY MIKE PETERS


ANOTHER IDIOT PRINCE IS HERE TO SAVE SNOW WHITE FROM HER TANNING BOOTH.
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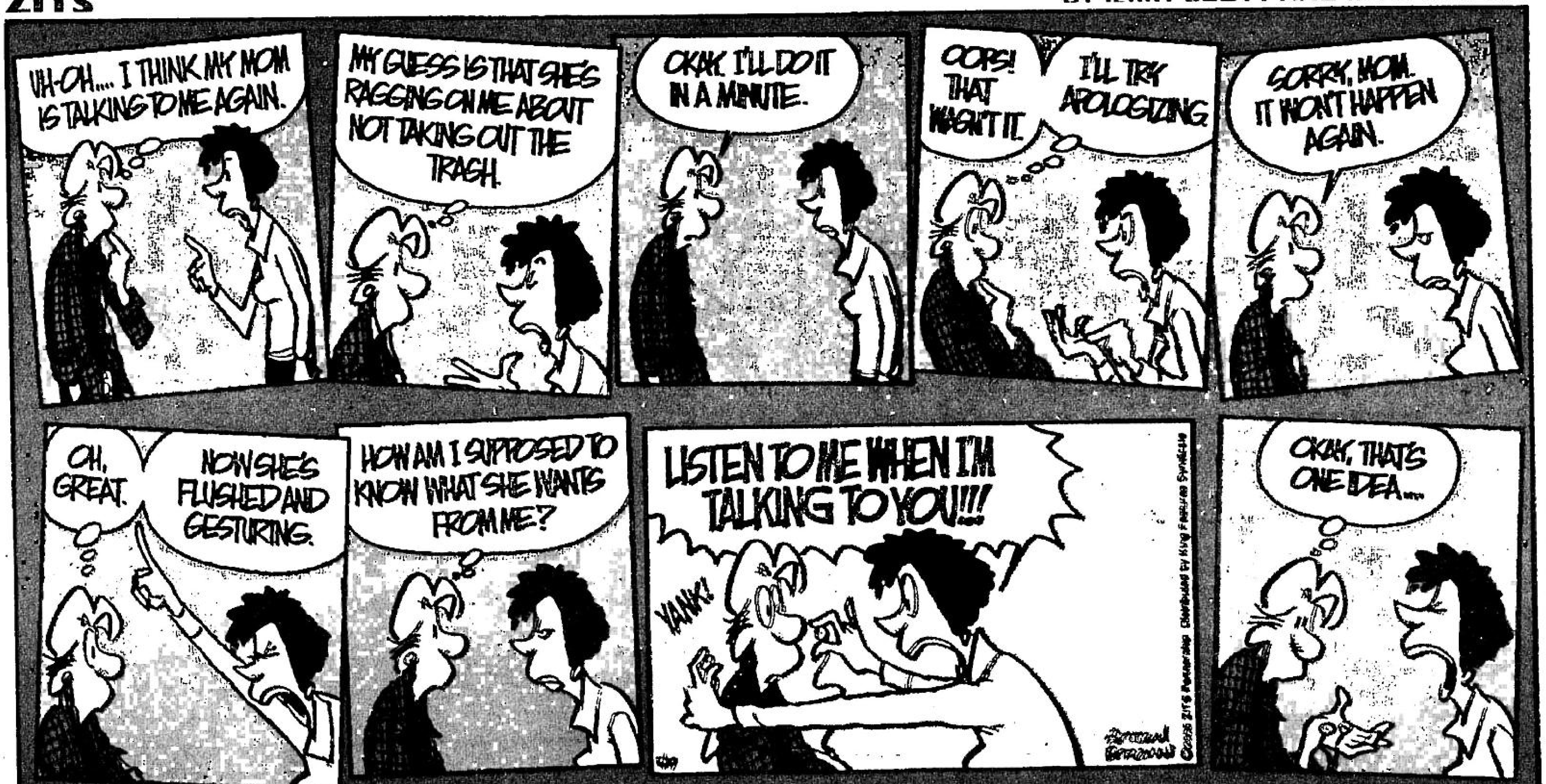
ZITS

BY JERRY SCOTT AND JIM BORGMAN


UH-OH.... I THINK MY MOM IS TALKING TO ME AGAIN.
MY GUESS IS THAT SHE'S RAGGING ON ME ABOUT NOT TAKING OUT THE TRASH.
OKAY. I'LL DO IT IN A MINUTE.
OOPS! THAT WASN'T IT.
I'LL TRY APOLOGIZING.
SORRY, MOM. IT WON'T HAPPEN AGAIN.
OH, GREAT.
NOW SHE'S FLUSHED AND GESTURING.
HOW AM I SUPPOSED TO KNOW WHAT SHE WANTS FROM ME?
YANK!
LISTEN TO ME WHEN I'M TALKING TO YOU!!!
OKAY, THAT'S ONE IDEA...
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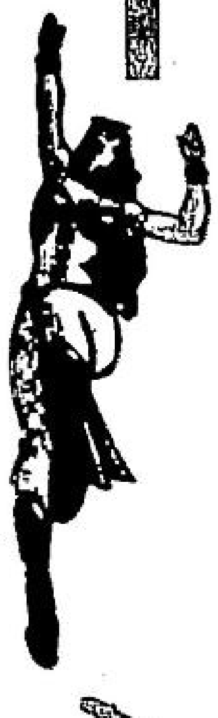
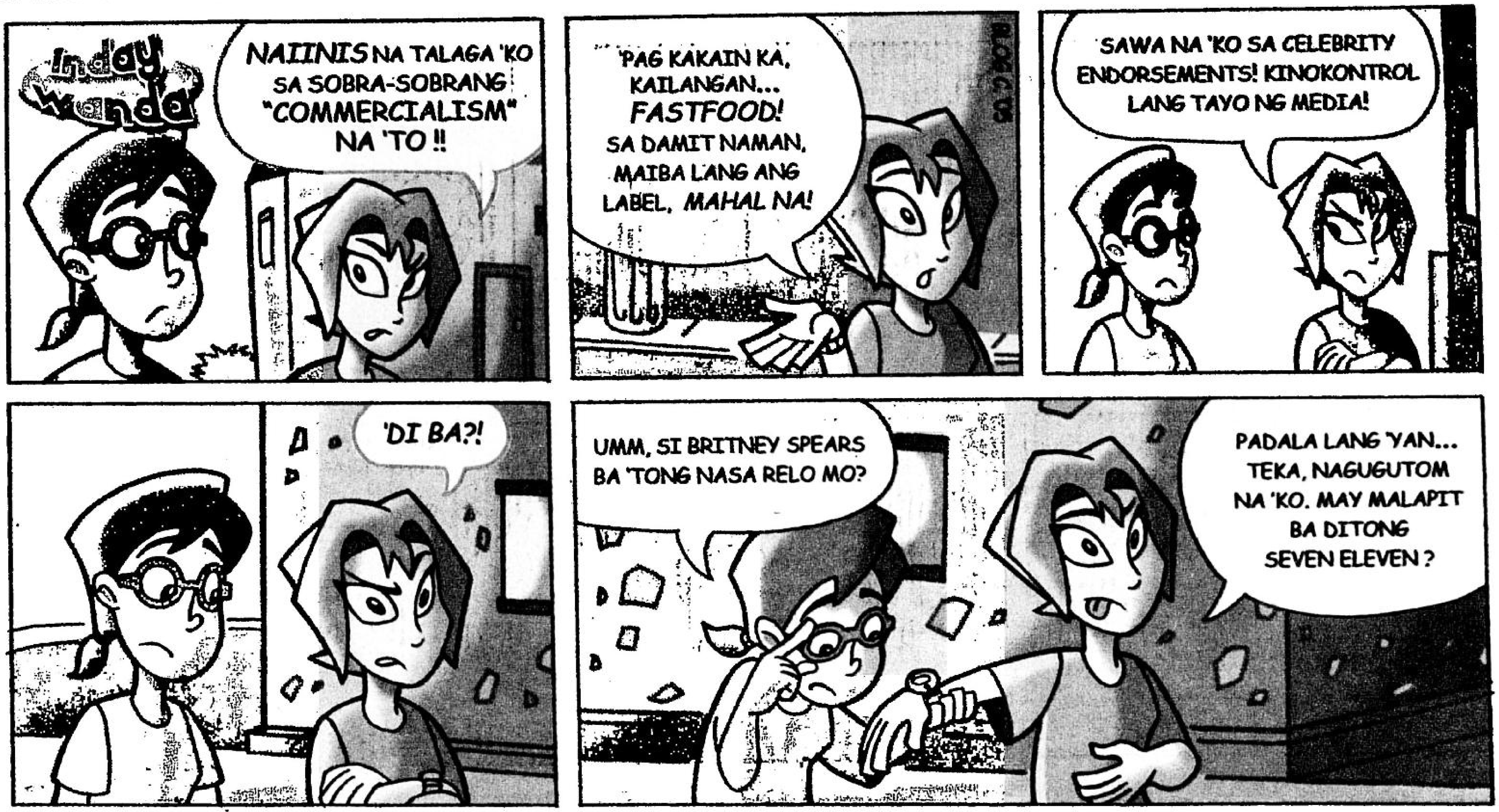


A. FOLD OUT AT CENTER TO GET THE BIG PICTURE

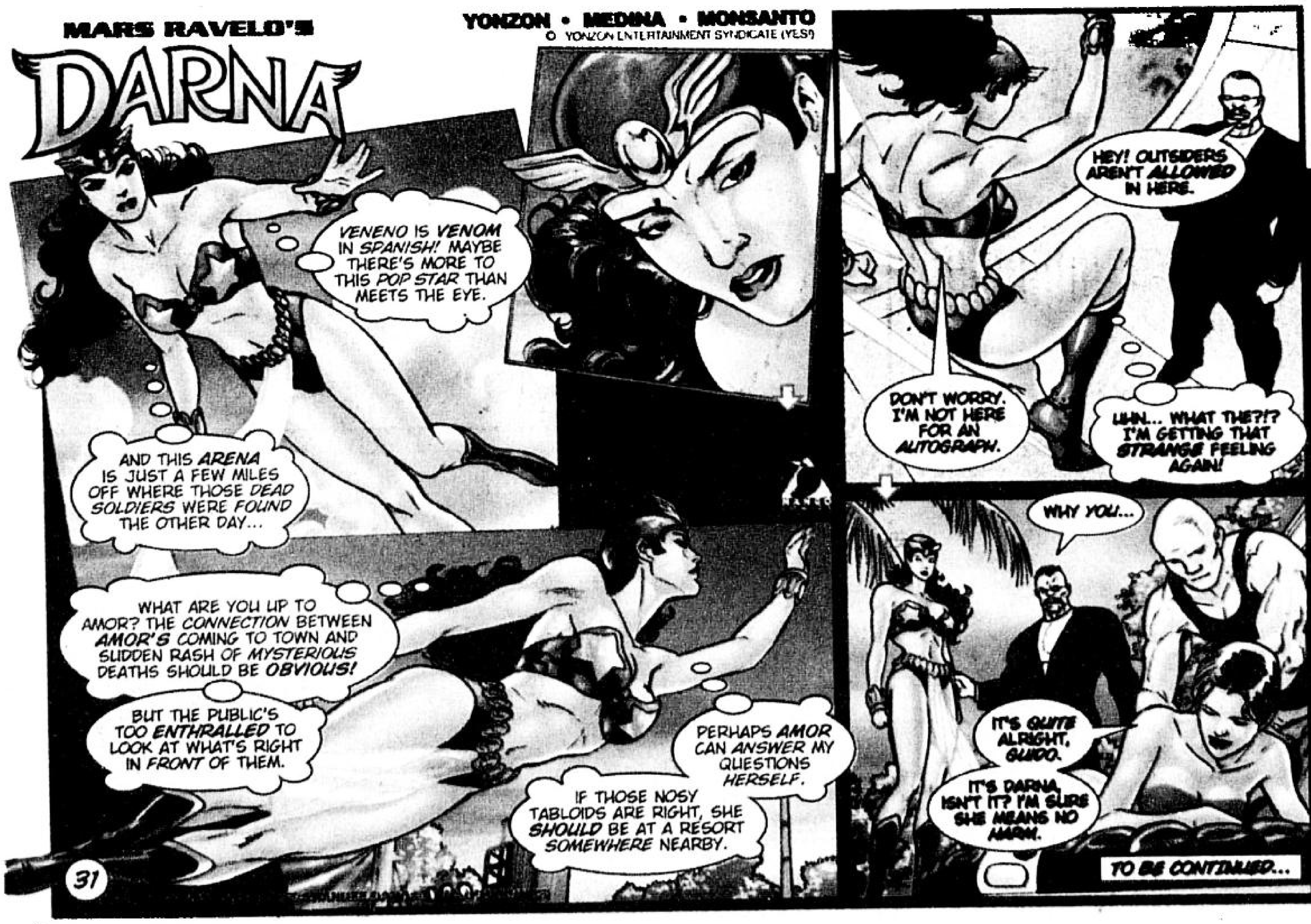
INDAY WANDA

BY BLOG CALIGUIA


Inday Wanda
NAIINIS NA TALAGA 'KO SA SOBRA-SOBRANG "COMMERCIALISM" NA 'TO !!
'PAG KAKAIN KA, KAILANGAN... FASTFOOD! SA DAMIT NAMAN, MAIBA LANG ANG LABEL, MAHAL NA!
BLOG C 05
SAWA NA 'KO SA CELEBRITY ENDORSEMENTS! KINOKONTROL LANG TAYO NG MEDIA!
'DI BA?!
UMM, SI BRITNEY SPEARS BA 'TONG NASA RELO MO?
PADALA LANG 'YAN... TEKA, NAGUGUTOM NA 'KO. MAY MALAPIT BA DITONG SEVEN ELEVEN ?

DARNA

BY MANGO COMICS


MARS RAVELO'S
DARNA
YONZON • MEDINA • MONSANTO
© YONZON ENTERTAINMENT SYNDICATE (YES!)
VENENO IS VENOM IN SPANISH! MAYBE THERE'S MORE TO THIS POP STAR THAN MEETS THE EYE.
AND THIS ARENA IS JUST A FEW MILES OFF WHERE THOSE DEAD SOLDIERS WERE FOUND THE OTHER DAY...
HEY! OUTSIDERS AREN'T ALLOWED IN HERE.
DON'T WORRY. I'M NOT HERE FOR AN AUTOGRAPH.
UHN... WHAT THE?!? I'M GETTING THAT STRANGE FEELING AGAIN!
WHAT ARE YOU UP TO AMOR? THE CONNECTION BETWEEN AMOR'S COMING TO TOWN AND SUDDEN RASH OF MYSTERIOUS DEATHS SHOULD BE OBVIOUS!
BUT THE PUBLIC'S TOO ENTHRALLED TO LOOK AT WHAT'S RIGHT IN FRONT OF THEM.
PERHAPS AMOR CAN ANSWER MY QUESTIONS HERSELF.
IF THOSE NOSY TABLOIDS ARE RIGHT, SHE SHOULD BE AT A RESORT SOMEWHERE NEARBY.
31
WHY YOU...
IT'S QUITE ALRIGHT, GUIDO.
IT'S DARNA, ISN'T IT? I'M SURE SHE MEANS NO HARM.
TO BE CONTINUED...

DARNA
DARNA
DARNA

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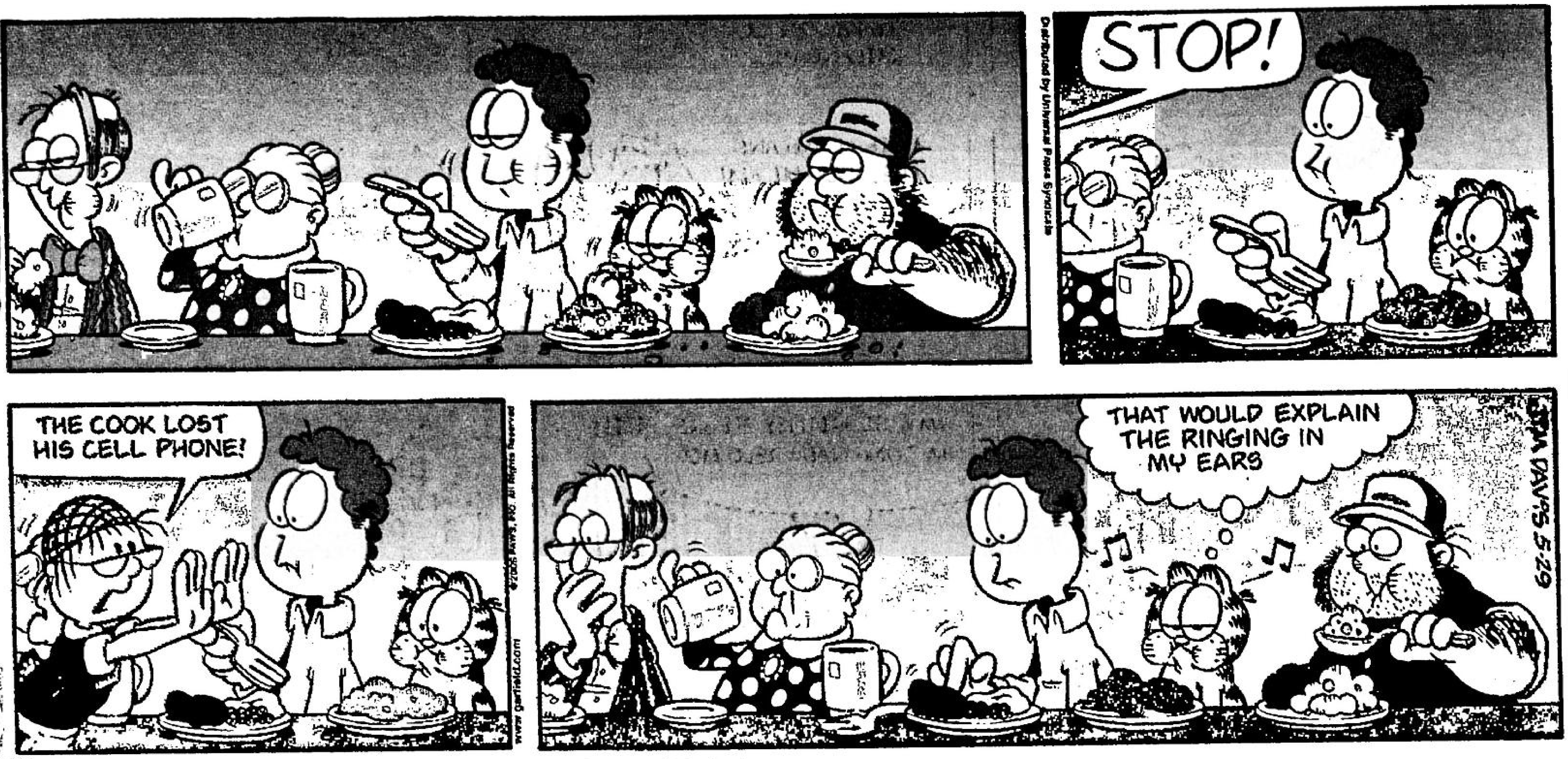
BY JIM DAVIS


STOP!
THE COOK LOST HIS CELL PHONE!
THAT WOULD EXPLAIN THE RINGING IN MY EARS
JIM DAVIS 5-29

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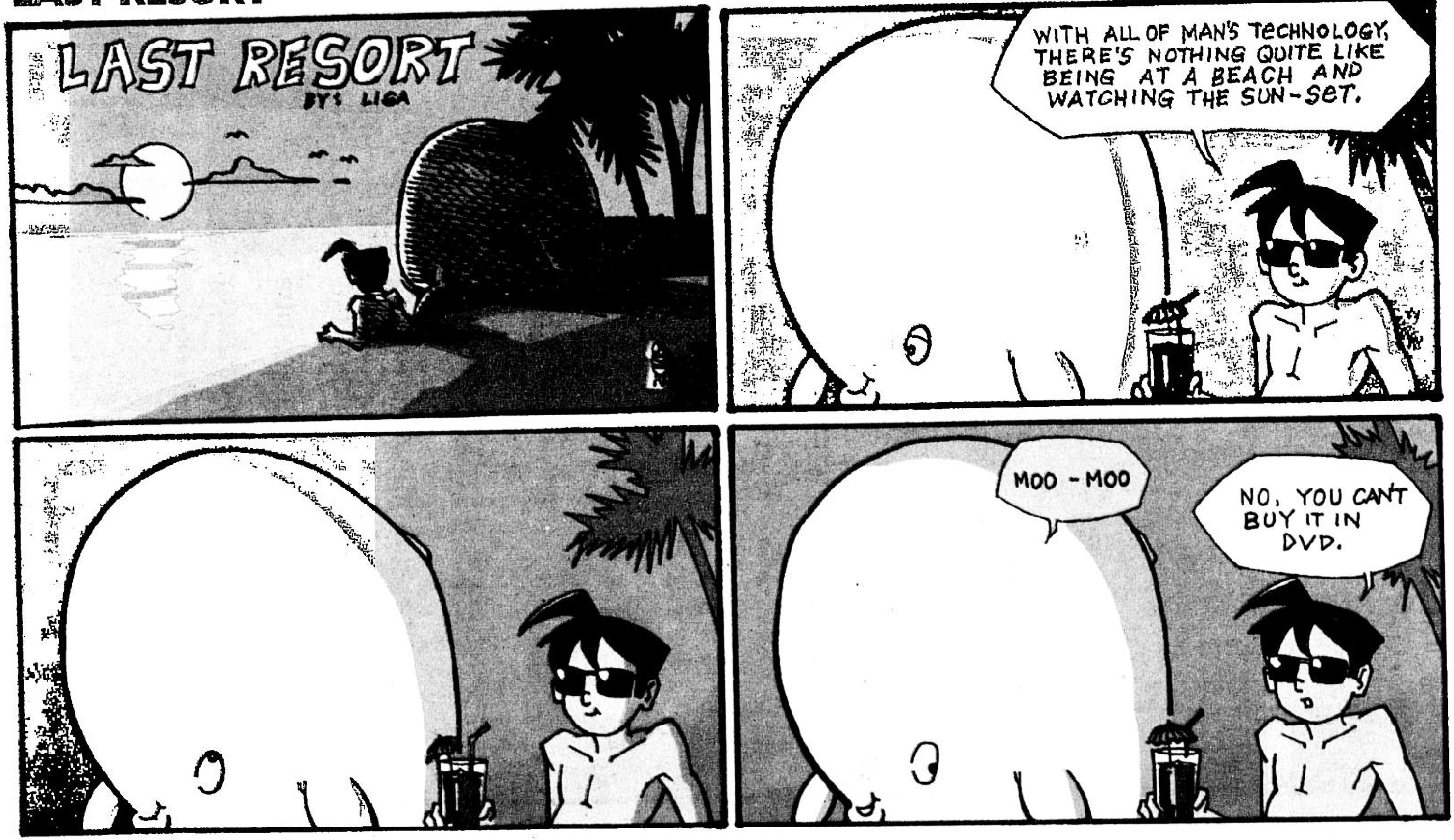
LAST RESORT

BY LIGA


LAST RESORT
BY: LIGA
WITH ALL OF MAN'S TECHNOLOGY, THERE'S NOTHING QUITE LIKE BEING AT A BEACH AND WATCHING THE SUN-SET.
MOO - MOO
NO, YOU CAN'T BUY IT IN DVD.

B. TURN THE PAGE TO GET IT RIGHT

Flying high at 15

From page G1

CLEAR blue skies, a constant breeze and a steady kite were all that people needed to have an enjoyable time at the Bear Brand Kite Fest.

"We designed our kite as a rooster," Pilones said. "My kids and my wife and I are very proud of our work because it was a team effort and for something that was created under pressure, our kite looked really good."

After only two years of kite flying, the family has already won six trophies.

"We are so proud to have won a lot. Kite-flying is a great sport that families can get into together. Instead of the children going off to do something else, why not get together and do something fun like this? That is why my family loves participating in the Bear Brand Kite Fest," said Pilones.

Multitude

It wasn't only the kite flyers that experienced the fun of the festivities. Passersby who got attracted to the multitude of flying kites were encouraged to register for the kite-flying finale and were given blue Bear Brand kites to fly for the event.

At 3 p.m., everyone with a kite flocked to the field and proceeded to set sail their kites for almost a half-hour.

At the end of the record-setting fun, Bear Brand executive Miko Acuña happily reported that 695 people were tallied to have joined the event, with 346 kites flown successfully. Next year's Kite Fest, he said, is expected to be bigger and more fun.

"The Bear Brand Kite Fest promotes family-oriented values and creativity through kite-making. You have to see for yourself the beauty of the participating kites to understand the ingenuity that goes into their production. Most of all, the Kite Fest brings wholesome enjoyment to people of all ages, especially young people and children."

ALL IN THE FAMILY. Dr. Delfin Pilones and his family proudly show off one of their entries, which took them three hours to craft on the morning of the competition.

A love doomed from the start

EMILY'S POST

Emily A. Marcelo

DEAR Emily,

I am 29 years old and a policewoman. I hate summer. I hate priests, but I love God.

My problem started when I fell in love with a seminarian. That was three years ago and I still cannot move on. I even felt suicidal the day he was ordained a priest.

I feel bitter because we didn't have a friendly parting.

Every time I see his friends who have humiliated and belittled me, I want to empty a cartridge of bullets on all of them. I've even forgotten the meaning of the word "happy" as I've not laughed in a long time.

Many envy me as I've moved up in my career. But nobody knows what a loser I feel inside.

I hate summers because it was in the summer of 2001 when I fell in love with him. We were inseparable then. Now, I feel dejected and depressed that I cannot even cry anymore. I am such a loser.

What should I do?

CECILIA

This guy knew in his heart and mind that he was already on his way to priesthood and still made a pass at you. Aren't some men such jerks—really?

But you are not entirely blameless! You both had your eyes open when you entered this anomalous relationship. You cannot fault the jerk because like a leopard, he cannot hide his spots.

You should have known that you were entering a "no-woman's-land" and should have deflected his attempts to flirt with you.

Did he promise to marry you when you first met? Did he hide his vocation at all? Or did you think he'd have you on the side after he became a priest?

You should have kept all your senses on the defensive considering the path he was taking. You cannot blame him, nor his friends who were mean to you.

Unless someone put a gun to your head, you entered a "do not enter" zone of your own volition. Blaming others or wanting to put bullet holes in their heads now is not quite fair.

You asked for it—you got it! Have a good, long and generous cry, buckets if you want—then move on.

E-mail the author at emarcelo@inquirer.com.ph, Subject: Lifestyle, or send your letters to Inquirer. Listen to Ms Marcelo, cohost the program, "Kalikasan Vigilante," 7:15-8:30 p.m., Monday to Friday, on dwBR 104.3 FM

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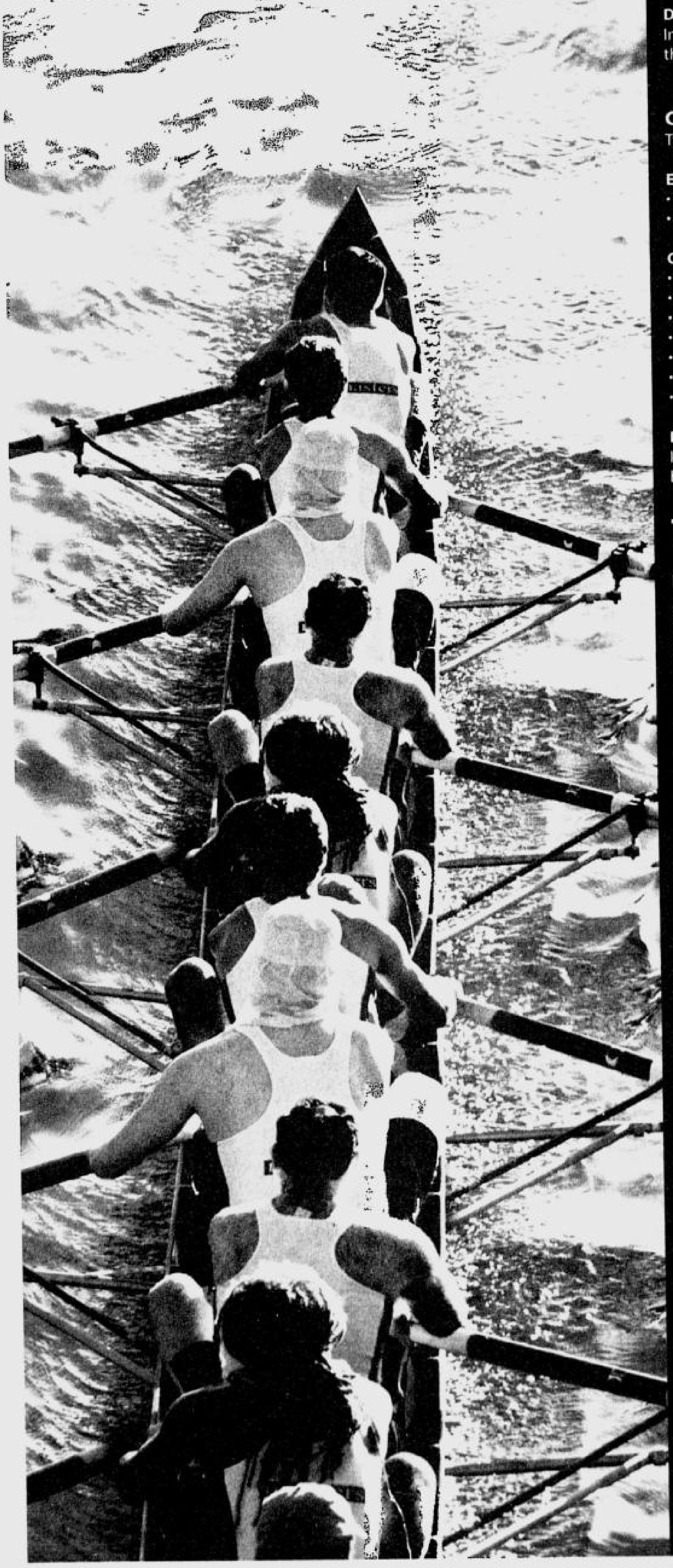

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TECHNICAL CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES

Type of Accounts: DSL, Internet and Networking

Educational Background

- Bachelor's degree preferably in Computer Science or Engineering

Candidate Profile

- Proficient in basic computer operations
- Must be flexible and willing to be assigned to varying work hours
- Able to relate with customers courteously, and develop rapport
- Dependable and has good work ethic
- Pays attention to detail
- Is fluent in English and communicates effectively
- Able to solve problems creatively and effectively
- Has technical knowledge in DSL, Internet and Broadband

Dimension & Scope

Interface with customers through inbound internet problems to solve and help the customer with products and services.

CUSTOMER CARE REPRESENTATIVES

Type of Accounts: Sales, Outbound, Financial, General Customer Service

Educational Background

- Bachelor's degree preferred
- Minimum requirement: Completion of at least 2 years of college studies

Candidate Profile

- Proficient in basic computer operations
- Must be flexible and willing to be assigned to varying work hours
- Able to relate with customers courteously, and develop rapport
- Dependable and has good work ethic
- Pays attention to detail
- Is fluent in English and communicates effectively
- Able to solve problems creatively and effectively

Dimension & Scope

Interface with customers through inbound or outbound calls to solve problems and help the customer with products and services.

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Block 44, Northgate
Cyberzone,
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Cebu Office
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must be a Certified Public Accountant; female, not over 35 years old; with 2 to 5 years of managerial experience in all accounting operations; has the ability to work in a fast paced environment; capacity to implement and manage monthly and quarterly budget; with strong computer skills

SELLING MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

(Las Piñas, Makati, Bicutan & San Lazaro)

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in retail operations, food chain or sales in the same capacity; responsible for planning, controlling and directing selling activities and personnel for the attainment of sales targets.

COUNTER & CHECKING MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

(Las Piñas, Makati & San Lazaro)

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with 1 to 2 years experience in cashiering operations, familiar with credit card and cash transactions; responsible for over-all supervision of personnel in the department

CUSTOMER RELATIONS SERVICE MANAGER / SUPERVISOR

not over 35 years old; graduate of Criminology or any 4-year business course; male, must be 5'5 ½" & female, 5'2" in height; with 1 year related work experience in handling security matters and personnel; with basic knowledge in crisis management and human behavior; with keen investigation skills, detail oriented and physically fit; can exhibit flexibility in various work assignments, willing to be assigned to provincial branches and extend work hours

WAREHOUSE SUPERVISOR

(Makati, Ortigas, Sta. Mesa, Manila, Bicutan, Marilao, San Lazaro & Sucat)

not over 35 years old; graduate of any 4-year business course; with extensive experience in all aspects of warehousing operations in a retail business; able to lead and motivate staff, and foster a team working environment

OFFICE ASSISTANT

(Human Resources * Accounting * Treasury * Customer Service)

not over 25 years old; graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Communication Arts, Business Management, Accountancy, Computer Science or any 4-year business course; personable, fast learner and willing to extend hours

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Qualified applicant shall receive standard salary, allowances & commissions.

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- Candidates are expected to have bubbly personality to be able establish good conversation and rapport with customers
- Must be assertive, high spirited and persevering
- Fresh graduates with above average communication skills and passion for sales are welcome to apply

QA MANAGER

Job Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree holder preferably in Industrial or Management Engineering or any Operations related discipline
- At least 5 years experience in Quality Assurance or working knowledge running a Quality Management program
- Significant work-related experience in a call center or in highly customer service oriented company gains definite advantage
- Candidates are expected to have keen eye for detail, developed analytical and good decision-making skills and above average communication skills

FINANCIAL ANALYST

Job Requirements:

- Must have at least 3 years working knowledge either as Financial Analyst, Bank Lending Officer / Investment Banking Associate, Corporate Governance Professional or Auditor (Internal or External)
- Must be CPA with substantial work experience or Business graduates with similar working capacity
- Ability to prepare accurate financial reports and projects required by senior management
- Must have the technical skills to maintain an up-to-date and complete governance documents
- Serves as key representative of current and prospective investor groups

WORKFORCE PLANNING SUPERVISOR

Job Requirements:

- Bachelor's degree holder ideally in Industrial or Management Engineering, Statistics or any Operations related discipline
- At least 1 –2 years experience in workforce planning preferably in a Call Center set-up
- Expected knowledge in Statistical Process, Quality Control Tools, Spreadsheets, Forecasting and Scheduling systems
- Ability to work with mathematical and probability concepts and forecasting tools
- Adept in interpreting wide range of statistical data and draw sound conclusions
- Candidates are expected to have keen eye for detail, developed analytical and good decision-making skills and above average communication skills

SYSTEMS DEVELOPERS

Job Requirements:

- Graduates of BS Computer Science and other IT-related courses
- Candidates must have hands-on experience in any of the following languages: VB, ASP, VB.net, ASP.net and MS SQL
- Preferably with at least 1 year work experience in related field
- Fresh graduates with strong working knowledge in the above languages are welcome to apply

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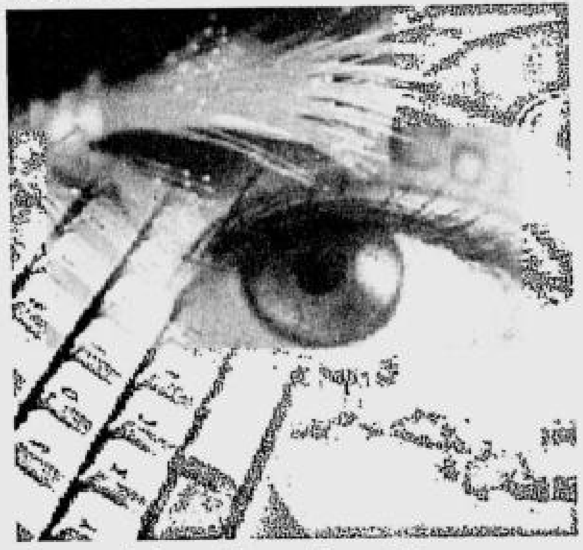

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ELECTRICAL DESIGN ENGINEER / SENIOR EDE

Responsible for engineering works as required by the Design Team, design & test prototype circuits, perform failure analysis, & prepare engineering-related documentation.

Requirements:

- BS degree in EE or ECE
- At least 2 to 10 years experience in analog electronics design or test engineering
- Knowledgeable in analog analysis, circuit simulation software & MS Windows applications
- Strong technical and analytical skills.

MECHANICAL DESIGN ENGINEER / SENIOR MDE

Will provide engineering support to the electronics Design Team, build & test prototype samples, optimize design for manufacturability, prepare parts lists & other engineering documentation.

Requirements:

- BS degree in ME
- With 2 to 10 years experience in mechanical design & analysis
- Exposure to consumer electronics R&D or manufacturing design environment is an advantage
- Proficiency in 2D and 3D MCAD modeling (preferably Pro/E) & MS Windows applications.

SOFTWARE DESIGN ENGINEER / SENIOR SDE

Responsible for design work as required by the Design Team, micro-controller programming & testing, performing failure analysis & preparing engineering-related documentation.

Requirements:

- BS degree in ECE, EE or CoE
- Experience in power electronics or analog electronics design an advantage
- Knowledgeable in MS Windows applications, DSP, microcontrollers & programming (mastery of C++ required).

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Salary is negotiable commensurate to technical proficiency. We also encourage provincial applicants.

These positions are on regular working hours & will be located in the Design Engineering Center (except for the Senior System Analyst) at the Eastwood City Cyberpark, Bagumbayan, Quezon City

POWER ELECTRONICS SCHOLARS

One-year post-grad Diploma course focused on analog power supply design. Benefits include full scholarship, very high monthly stipend, & free supply of components for prototype projects. Units earned are credited in a Masters degree. Astec has first employment option upon graduation.

Requirements:

- Recent graduates of BS ECE & EE (SY 2004, '03 and '02 only)
- Above average scholastic records
- Interested in analog electronics
- Willing to study full-time for 6-months & undergo on-the-job training in our world-class Design Engineering Center & manufacturing setting.

TEST ENGINEER

Will provide test engineering support to the Design Teams & the factory. Develop & assist in test programming & test support during customer shipments. Assist in the fabrication of test jigs for autotesters. Provide hardware support for all models that needs automated testing. Develop new test hardwares & test softwares for power supply testing.

Requirements:

- BS degree in ECE or CoE
- 2-3yrs experience / knowledge in AC/DC & DC/DC Switchmode, Power Supply testing, Visual Basic Programming, C/C++ for controlling GPIB/VXI, test equipments, I2C & other COM BUS protocols, programming in LabView/CVI
- Must have the ability to technically communicate with Design Teams, factory & support staff in order to execute the needed task for test support
- Strong background in analog & digital electronics, with basic know-how on Design for Testability concepts.

PCB ENGINEER

Responsible for laying out printed circuit boards (PCBs), drawing schematic diagrams using computer-aided design (CAD) software, and preparing PCB specifications, films, gerber and drill files and other related documents.

Requirements:

- BS degree in EE, ECE or CoE
- Experience in PCB layout using Cadence Allegro
- Familiarity with multi-layer PCBs an advantage
- Proficiency in MS Windows applications.

SENIOR SYSTEM ANALYST

Provide major support on Oracle Technical & Functional, such as but not limited to day-to-day Finance operations in Oracle, forthcoming projects such as the MRC database updgrade of Oracle, & Oracle Finance / Manufacturing implementation.

Requirements:

- BS Comp Sci or Accounting, CPA preferred but not required
- At least 3 yrs of solid work experience in Oracle Finance Application modules
- Oracle Finance application skills, Oracle PL / SQL Oracle Report Builder, Discover Oracle, DBA, Toad, Unix / Linux, Oracle OM
- SCP application skills also preferred.

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JICA JAPAN INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AGENCY
PHILIPPINE OFFICE

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) which is an active development partner of the Philippine Government is now seeking the services of a dynamic and competent staff with a high degree of initiative to fill the position of:

PROGRAM ASSISTANT

The assignment may be in the Planning and Coordination Section. The staff will be working with Japanese and Filipino counterparts and shall be responsible for administrative and logistic support, as well as, coordinating with government offices or related agencies in the implementation of programs.

The staff may also be assigned to other sections within the office, depending on his/her performance.

Qualifications:

- Male/Female, 23-30 years old
- Graduate of a four-year university course
- With at least three-years working experience in a related field
- Excellent oral and written communications skills
- Proficient in computer skills (Excel, Word, Powerpoint &/or Filemaker)
- Good interpersonal skills, adaptable and willing to learn

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is a government agency responsible for implementing the technical cooperation programs of Japan's Official Development Assistance (ODA). For more information, refer to JICA's homepage: http://www.jica.co.jp/philippine/index.html.

The recruitment will behandled by the Takezawa Technology Transfer & Industrial Consultancy, INc. (TTT-ICI). All applicants must submit their Curriculum Vitae on or before June 4, 2005 to TTT-ICI at Unit-K 3rd Floor, Westgate Tower, Investment Drive, Madrigal Business Park, Ayala Alabang, Muntinlupa City or e-mail to tttici@pldtdsl.net or fax to 772-1889

(Only shorlisted candidates will be notified.)

UNDP

The Community-Based Ecological Solid Waste Management System project funded by Japan HRD Fund and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), and implemented by the Metro Manila Development Authority (MMDA) is in search of qualified candidates for the posts of **Project Manager; Community Organizers; Administrative / Finance Assistant and Driver** to be based at the MMDA Office in Makati City.

Project Manager – Contract is for six (6) months.

Technical Accountabilities :

Project Management
1. Ensures the effective appraisal, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the Project
2. Identify potential funding sources, and develop and submit proposals for the program
3. Coordinate planning and review processes at project level ensuring appropriate stakeholder participation
4. Ensure timely administration of the project, including but not limited to the preparation of financial and project reports in compliance with required guidelines, systems and audit standards
5. Facilitate linking and learning across country and regional / international programs
6. Ensure effective liaison with both local government units and national government line agencies (DENR, MMDA, etc.)
7. Minimum effective information flow and analysis and contribute to responses to general development issues and trends in solid waste management.

Budget
1. Ensure the effective financial management of the program including budgeting, cash flow forecasting, fund transfers and documentation both at the project and partner organization levels
2. Approve contractual commitments of the project based on approval authority
3. Ensure adequate measures are in place to meet donor requirements

Human Resources
1. Ensure effective human resource management of the project including staff recruitment, selection, induction, performance appraisals, training and development

Qualifications :
1. An undergraduate degree in engineering or natural science, urban planning or any relevant discipline. An MS degree or units on relevant field would be an advantage.
2. At least five years experience in community-based ecological solid waste management and program management, including design, evaluation and policy development
3. Must have excellent written and oral communication skills as well as strong program planning and management skills including administrative and human resources management
4. Must have the capacity to link micro field-based project work with macro public policy issues
5. Must be proficient in the use of various MS Office application softwares, such as Word, Excel, PowerPoint, etc.

5 Community Organizers – Contract is for six (6) months

Technical Accountabilities :

General Activity
1. Provides direct technical assistance to the community planning / organizing activities of the project

Specific Activities
1. Assists in preparation of work plans for the community organizing component of the project
2. Assists in the design of the community-based ecological solid waste management system training programs and cross-visits for the local government units (LGU's)
3. Assists in designing and implementing training programs for the LGU's
4. Provides direct technical assistance to field staff of partner LGU's in direct community organizing / LGU strengthening work, as maybe required
5. Implements community organizing / LGU strengthening activities to concerned LGUs, notably the conduct of community planning, community / LGU training and cross visits
6. Acts as resource person in community organizing training activities designed by partner organizations in connection with agreed priorities
7. Assists in the organization of assemblies, conferences and workshops relative to the formulation of the community-based ecological solid waste management system
8. Participates in advocacy campaigns concerning solid waste management issues
9. Facilitates logistical preparations for community-based ecological solid waste management system-level training programs and cross visits for LGU members, partner organization staff
10. Prepares project updates and status report for the community organizing component
11. Liases with partner organizations on the timely submission of partner level status reports

Qualifications :
1. **University Graduate in Economics, Social Sciences, and other relevant fields / disciplines**
2. Knowledge and experience in community organizing / training strategies, community development / organizing, training and advocacy
3. Knowledge and experience of participatory rural appraisal and planning, monitoring and evaluation tools
4. Knowledge and experience in solid waste management issues and advantage
5. Written and oral communication skills, including the capacity to relate to both the internal and external constituencies of the project
6. Strong facilitation and training skills
7. Strong program planning, analysis and evaluation skills
8. Report writing skills
9. Computer literate
10. Proven ability to work and lead teams of people
11. Ability to work autonomously and as a member of a team
12. Patience and tolerance
13. Capacity to work under pressures
14. Capacity to travel for long periods

Administrative and Finance Assistant – Contract is for six (6) months.

Technical Accountabilities :

General Activity
1. Provides timely and accurate processing of all daily accounting transactions of the Project Management Office, the monthly generation of the necessary financial uploads and reports required by the PMO and the UNDP, and the provisions of support to the PMO in a variety of administrative functions.

Specific Activities
1. Prepares all cheque requests, receipt memos and adjusting journal entries, assuring that the proper supporting documents have been provided to ensure proper recording and reporting of transactions
2. Inputs into the project's Financial System all daily transactions to ensure that all PMO cheque requests, receipt memos and adjusting journal entries are accurately recorded
3. Assists the Finance Officer in the preparation of monthly bank reconciliation and cash recaps
4. Performs any necessary bank visits and obtains all required statements, follow-ups on any banking transactions, and generally maintains the PMO's relationship with the local bank
5. Supports the Finance Officer in personnel management by producing timely and accurate back-up worksheets to facilitate prompt settlement of remittances to SSS, BIR, Pag-ibig and other payable obligations
6. Provides procurement support to the procurement functions in the PMO
7. Fulfills secretarial support function for the PMO by assuring the filing of hard copies of documents, office calls are answered promptly, and typing of documents
8. Executes any other tasks assigned by the Project Manager

Qualifications :
1. College graduate
2. At least five (5) years experience as an Administrative Officer in any development project;
3. Knowledgeable in modern office administration especially in management of office documents and papers;
4. Knowledgeable of inventory control and procurement procedures;
5. With satisfactory skills on the use of office software packages such as MS Word and MS Excel.
6. Good interpersonal and communications skills

Driver – Contract is for six (6) months.

Technical Accountabilities :

Specific Activities
1. Drives for the project staff
2. Maintains the project vehicle
3. Secures safety of the project vehicle
4. Deliver / pick-up project documents / materials
5. Extends support services during official functions like meetings, workshops, etc.
6. Arranges and monitors regular vehicle repair / maintenance jobs
7. Prepares related reports
8. Performs other tasks to be assigned by the immediate supervisor

Qualifications :
1. At least high school graduate
a. At least five (10) years driving experience
b. Knowledgeable on basic maintenance and repair of vehicle

Interested applicants should support MMDA in its existing community-based solid waste management initiatives.

All application letters and comprehensive resumes should reach our office on or before 6 June 2005. Address applications to the Development Support Services Center, United Nations Development Programme, 30th Floor, Yuchengco Tower, RCBC Plaza

This advertisement shall remain posted in www.undp.org.ph until June 6, 1005.

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tyler (Owned and operated by Republic Retailers)

is looking for:

• I.T. PROGRAMMER/MANAGER

Technical Requirements
- Knowledgeable in .NET technologies particularly C#, ADO.NET, and ASP.NET (required).
- Knowledge in object-oriented programming and n-tier applications preferred.
- Experience in using HTML and JavaScript.
- Experienced in relational databases particularly SQL Server 2000 and MS Access. Knowledge about Interbase is a plus
- Preferably knows about inventory and accounting systems.

Job Requirements
- Graduate of I.T.-related course
- Willing and able to work weekends and holidays
- Concise and clear email and verbal communication skills
- Willing and able to do clerical work

• STORE FRONTLINER, FULL-TIME OR PART-TIME (SALES & CUSTOMER SERVICE STAFF)

Job Summary

Reports to the Store Operations Manager, is responsible for in-store selling, organizing, communicating, knowing and marketing of products through exceptional customer service, while following the Mission and Vision of Republic Retailers.

• ACCOUNTING STAFF/BOOKKEEPER

Job Summary

Performs professional accounting work which includes costing of merchandise and PO/Check Voucher preparation; preparing of transaction registers, state of account and government reportorial requirements; purchasing of supplies; handling of petty cash fund; monitoring and filing of accounting documents; and performs related work as required.

Job Requirements
- Not older than 26 years old
- Accounting graduate
- With at least one (1) year experience in accounting field
- Proficient in MS Office

• EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT

Job Summary

Working under the President, attends to their needs, schedules, meetings, personal matters, communication, and confidential information, as well as other duties assigned.

• MERCHANDISING ASSISTANT/TRAINEE

Job Summary

Reports to the Division Manager and is responsible for assisting in planning, producing, and controlling merchandise, and interacting with suppliers, while following the Mission and Vision of Republic Retailers.

FOR MORE INFORMATION AND HOW TO APPLY:
- Go to www.republicretailers.com

OR
- **Get a Recruitment Brochure & Application Form from any of our stores: 2/F, Glorietta 4, Ayala Center, Makati City, or 1st Level Rockwell Power Plant Mall, Rockwell Driver corner Estrella St., Makati City, or 2nd Level Rustan's Shangri-La Plaza EDSA corner Shaw Boulevard, Mandaluyong City.**

(Only shortlisted applicants who have filled up an Application Form will be contacted.)

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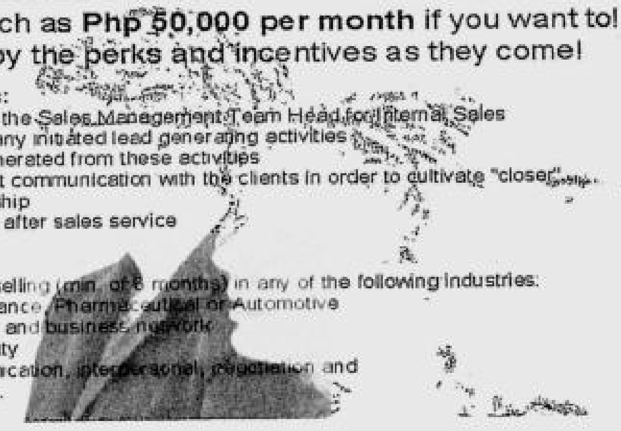

Job Specifications:
- Reports directly to the Sales Management Team Head for Internal Sales
- Implements company initiated lead generating activities
- Services leads generated from these activities
- Maintains constant communication with the clients in order to cultivate "closer" business relationship
- Provides excellent after sales service

Qualifications:
- Must have direct selling (min. of 6 months) in any of the following industries: Real Estate, Insurance, Pharmaceutical or Automotive
- Has vast personal and business network
- Pleasing personality
- Excellent communication, interpersonal, negotiation and presentation skills.

An attractive compensation package awaits successful candidates.

Only qualified applicants will be entertained. Apply in person or fax/e-mail comprehensive resumé (from May 30 to June 1, 2005 Monday-Wednesday 9:00AM-3:00PM)

EARTH+STYLE CORPORATION
31/F Orient Square Bldg., Emerald Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City
Look for John Arimado or Pam Sarmiento
Fax No. 638-3728 Tel.No. 638-8558
E-mail: pam.sarmiento@earthandstyle.com

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As we elevate your career to the top!

We are a joint venture with Mitsubishi of Japan and an ISO-9001:2000 certified company. We have vacancies for:

ASSISTANT ADMINISTRATION MANAGER

The candidate shall be responsible for the direct supervision and control over the administrative functions of the company. He is expected to systematize administrative work and procedures. He must have extensive experience in the areas of general services, warehouse and inventory control, grounds and building maintenance, security & safety, and purchasing.

The candidates should be 40 years old or below and a graduate of any business or engineering related course, preferably with MBA units. They must have at least three (3) years supervisory experience in medium-to-large scale business entity.

SALES ENGINEER

He will be responsible in sourcing out clients/customers and coordinating with architects and consultants, preparing cost estimates in accordance with bid specifications, generating sales, preparing contract documents and ensure acceptance by the client and coordinating with other trade contractors. The product line is either Mitsubishi elevators and escalators or air-conditioning equipment or diesel generators.

The candidates must be between 21 and 30 years old and a graduate of any business or engineering related course from a reputable school. Experience in sales of the said equipment is not required but an advantage.

STAFF ENGINEER

He will be responsible in assisting his superior in the proper control and monitoring of the department's activities and in coordinating with other departments, clients, and their representatives on matters that would facilitate timely start and completion of installation projects.

The candidates must be between 23 and 28 years old and a graduate of B.S. Industrial, Mechanical or Electrical Engineering degree, preferably with license from the Professional Regulation Commission.

The ideal applicants of the said job vacancies must be aggressive, determined, responsible, honest, result oriented, self-disciplined, with strong leadership qualities, team worker, courteous, with high tolerance for stress, good in oral and written communication, can relate to other employees of the Company, computer literate (MS Office and preferably AutoCAD) and holder of valid driver's license.

Applicants should come personally with resumé, photo-copy and original of transcript of records, diploma and 2x2 picture to:

INTERNATIONAL ELEVATOR & EQUIPMENT, INC.
Km. 23 West Service Road South Superhighway, Cupang, Muntinlupa City
(Between Sucat and Alabang Interchanges, near Alabang Hills Village)
and look for Ms. Myles C. Estupin
Tel. # 8423161-64 / 8070420
Fax # 8423160 / 8093706
e-mail add: jesusalinda.calleja@iee.com.ph
myles_iee@yahoo.com

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visit us at www.jobmarketonline.com

CCF PHILIPPINES

Working for the well-being of Children

Our organization is an international non-profit, non political and non-sectarian child development agency that operates in over 30 countries. It has provided development assistance in the Philippines for 35 years and in partnership with 49 community-based organizations, assists more than 21,600 children and their families. It is currently seeking high-caliber development professionals for the following positions:

One (1) MICRO FINANCE/MICRO-ENTERPRISE DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST
One (1) HEALTH DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST
One (1) EDUCATION DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

The overall responsibility is to provide technical support in the design, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of CCF programs in the country ensuring quality impact for the wellbeing of children and their communities. Specifically, these development specialists are expected to support the Country Office in the development of the country strategic plan and its implementation ensuring desired outcomes are achieved. Assisting the Country Office in resource mobilization and management in support of quality programs will also be a major task for the specialists.

One (1) GRANTS DEVELOPMENT SPECIALIST

The overall responsibility is to lead the development of significant grant portfolio of the country office. S/he will take the lead in resource mobilization and networking with other development agencies in support of programs that directly address causes and effects of poverty on children. S/he will also provide active support in the formulation and implementation of grant projects ensuring quality and sustainable impact.

The successful candidates must have the following qualifications:

☐ University Degree in relevant course
☐ At least three to five year experience as a development professional with strong exposure/involvement in program planning, implementation, monitoring and evaluation
☐ Demonstrated capacity in providing technical expertise
☐ Demonstrated high level of interpersonal and cross-cultural skills
☐ Can work with minimal supervision and perform effectively under pressure
☐ Work experience in community based programs/projects
☐ Excellent oral and written communication skills
☐ A good grasp of children's issues at national and global levels a distinct advantage

Travel Requirements: Approximately 40%

An attractive remuneration package will be negotiated according to qualifications & experience.

Interested applicants may send their application letter together with detailed Curriculum Vitaé with 3 references & contact details to ccfpo@pldtdsl.net not later than May 31, 2005. Due to the volume of applications we receive, we shall contact shortlisted applicants only.

PNTC Colleges

Zone III, Lt. Cantimbuhan St., Poblacion Dasmariñas, Cavite
Tel. No. (02)7317857, (046)4162584, (046)4165111

Is now accepting applications for SY 2005 – 2006 for the following:

MARITIME INSTRUCTORS

- Graduate of BS Marine Engineering or BS Marine Transportation
- With at least Operational or Management level license
- With shipboard experience (dry cargo, container, oil/ chemical or liquefied gas tankers, passenger vessels
- With teaching experience and holder of IMO Model Course 6.09

INSTRUCTORS (English and Social Science)

- Holder of relevant bachelor's degree
- Preferably with Major in English
- Masteral degree/ units is an advantage (at least 18 units)
- With at least one year teaching experience

BOOKKEEPER

- Accounting Graduate
- Preferably with 3 yrs. Experience in related field

Interested parties may mail or personally submit their resumé, 2x2 photo, transcript of records and other credentials to:
HRD 4/F Isabel Bldg. 870 España St. Sampaloc Manila

DOME

Dome Café is a chain of outlets in the Philippines, Australia, Singapore, Malaysia, Dubai and Indonesia offering a wide array of fine foods and gourmet coffees. We set the pace for new standards of experience in operating cafés.

We are looking for aggressive, dynamic, pleasant and service-oriented individuals to fill the following positions:

Café Managers
Coffee Makers
Pastry Chefs
Marketing Supervisors
Kitchen Managers & Staff
Dining Staff & Hostesses
Maintenance Man
Acctg & Admin Staff

Requirements:
☑ Experience in similar capacity – At least 2 yrs.
☑ HRM/HRD graduates preferred
☑ 18 to 35 years of age

Benefits:
☑ Attractive salary and fringe benefits
☑ Excellent opportunity for career advancement
☑ Cross training in other Dome Café abroad

Interested parties may send their resumé to:

Dome Café
220 Pilar St., Mandaluyong City
or Fax your resumé to 725-8861

URGENT NEED

The leading proponent of Fair Trade in the country is looking for committed and qualified people to handle the following positions:

Finance and Accounting Manager

- Certified Public Accountant
- With more than 5 years successful experience in managing finance and accounting matters
- Flexible and a Team-player
- Trustworthy with good people management skills
- Capable of handling basic training modules on accounting and bookkeeping

Training Supervisor

- Graduate of Industrial Engineering, Psychology, Education or related sciences.
- With more than 3 years successful training experience
- Excellent people management skills
- Flexible, Team-player, and can work under pressure
- With experience in training module development
- Capable of handling basic trainings on PPC and Product Development

Kindly send your resume to **jrdelacruz@apftl.org.ph** or to **pftqc@apftl.org.ph** or you can send it by fax to **(02) 454-1567** not later than June 2, 2005.
We will only respond to qualified applicants.

Sara Lee Philippines, Inc.

Branded Apparel Division, a US multinational engaged in the marketing and distribution of global leading brands such as **Hanes, Hanes Her Way and Wonderbra** needs the following to support its business expansion and growth:

Brand Manager

Job Summary: Responsible for managing the growth and expansion of an existing market leading brand through conceptualization and execution of all brand marketing programs that will guarantee the achievement of top line sales objectives, market share growth, brand promotion and profitability.

Candidate's Profile : We are looking for young, results driven individual with marketing skills and experiences perfected from an apparel or an FMCG company. The person must have the "passion to excel", quick to learn and adapt, possess excellent analytical skills and capable of translating relevant consumer insights into effective and workable plans and strategies. He/she should have good organization and project management skills and be able to effectively collaborate with the sales team and other departments in meeting goals and objectives. Must possess extensive brand marketing experience of at least 3 years plus a track record for achieving sales, profit and market share growth targets within apparel or consumer goods sector.

Sales Development Specialist

Job Summary: Responsible for managing and expanding Accounts and Regional Distributors within given territory with focus on sales achievement, account receivables, distribution, implementation of account/ trade and consumer activities, inventory management and people development. Current vacancy is for GMA and South Luzon.

Candidate's Profile: We are looking for young, results driven individual with proven selling skills and experience from apparel or FMCG company. The person must have the "passion to excel", quick to learn and adapt, possess excellent analytical skill and capable of transforming ideas into workable sales strategies. He/she should have excellent organization and project management skills and be able to effectively collaborate with the marketing and operations to achieve goals and objectives. Must possess hands on people management skills and a track record for achieving sales, profit and market share growth targets.

To the right candidates, we offer above industry compensation that includes car, performance bonuses and future growth opportunities within a multinational environment. This is an urgent requirement; the persons to be hired should be available within a month. Interested candidates are invited to email their comprehensive resumes with personal references to nroyandoyan@sldeasia.com.

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We are looking for: fresh graduates or those with 2 years work experience to join our young, but industry-recognized company for expansion, we only welcome applicants who have: a thirst for knowledge, a passion for excellence, a commitment to hard work, and a dedication to corporate goals and vision.

We allow for flexible time schedule in an unstructured work environment where creativity is encouraged.

Applicants must: have excellent communication skills both written and oral, be willing to work long hours, be a self starter, and a team player, possess strong organizational and interpersonal skills, be able to work under pressure, and must have a working knowledge of MS Office and the Internet.

ACADEMY:

MEDICAL LECTURERS – must be a Doctor of Medicine, loves to teach in a creative manner and can make learning fun, full-time or part time basis,
MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION MENTORS – must have at least a year of MT experience, full time basis
FACULTY COORDINATORS – exposure in school administration, scheduling and planning
ENGLISH LANGUAGE TRAINORS

HOLDING COMPANY:

Marketing Officers
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Franchise Operations Officers
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HR Officer - exposure in all aspects of human resource management
IT Officers - knowledgeable in ASP, Visual Basic, SQL Server, good in documentation and standardization of IT processes and systems
Accounting Officers - preferably CPA
Finance Officer
IT/Technical Support Staff
Software Development Officers

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTION PRODUCTION:

MEDICAL TRANSCRIPTIONISTS
QA OFFICERS/TEAM LEADERS
OPERATIONS HEAD

MTC ACADEMY BRANCHES & FRANCHISES

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G/F Urban Bldg. 405 Sen. Gil Puyat Ave., Bel-Air., Makati City

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Experienced only apply.

1. Mechanical/Civil/Electrical Engineers
2. Water Treatment Plant Operators/Laboratory Assistants
3. Technicians (Electrical/Mechanical field)
4. Certified Welders/Crane/Excavator Operator

Applicants must prepare to work shift/abroad, valid passport and driver's license would be advantage. Min 3 yrs working experience, self starter and able to work independently with good communication skills.

Submit applications by post only to :
The Advertiser
c/o Ms Lorna Raule
Unit 5, Casa Abelardo, N. Abelardo St.
Phase 5, BF Homes Las Pinas City

or preferably by e-mail to : cem8eng@yahoo.com
All applications must reach to us not later than 7th June 2005.
Only shortlisted applicant will be contacted via e-mail.

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電話 : 884-1365 / 1169

John Clements Consultants, Inc.

PRISM PRIVATE SECTOR MOBILIZATION FOR FAMILY PLANNING
USAID FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Scope of Work
Market Development Manager, Visayas

Background:

The PRISM Project supports USAID/Philippines' Strategic Objective 3, *Desired family size and improved health sustainably achieved*, focusing on three components: 1) increased workplace support for FP services and referrals, 2) establishment of viable, mass market brands of hormonal contraceptives, and 3) increased business value of FP among private practice providers.

The market development component (component 2) of the project will be implemented nationally and the Market Development Manager for Visayas will be responsible for supporting implementation of market development component activities in the Visayas region of the Philippines.

General Tasks:

1. Review the project technical proposal and other relevant background documentation, including: USAID/Philippines strategic plan, documents from other relevant projects in the Philippines (past and present) such as CMS, research results on marketing programs and initiatives, the project's 1st annual work plan (when completed), DHS reports, etc.
2. Participate in annual project work planning processes.
3. Collaborate with the M&E Specialist to monitor and evaluate central regional market development component activities.
4. Coordinate with the Visayas Workplace and Private Practice Managers to identify and capitalize on potential synergies in project implementation across components.
5. Coordinate with the Visayas Operations Manager for administrative and managerial matters.
6. Ensure that gender initiatives as defined by the Gender Specialist are properly implemented in all regional market development component activities.
7. Work with other technical and management staff to develop approaches and strategies to anticipate, prevent and counteract potential opposition to project activities from social forces such as faith-based groups.
8. Complete other tasks and assignments as deemed appropriate by the Market Development Director.

Specific Tasks

Component 2: Market Development

1. Monitor and interpret trends in donated contraceptive products and sales of commercial and socially marketed contraceptive products. Make recommendations on implications of trends for market development component activities
2. Coordinate with the Visayas Workplace and Private Practice Managers to identify market opportunities for distributors among workplaces, midwives, and other private practice providers that are potential purchasers of their contraceptive products.
3. Establish working relationships and liaise with Visayas-based distributors and regional offices of Manila-based distributors.
4. Advise distributors of specific workplaces, midwives, and other private practice providers that are potential purchasers of their contraceptive products.
5. Under the direction of the Market Development Director, encourage manufacturers in Visayas to develop new FP methods and brands at affordable prices in order to take maximum advantage of market opportunities.
6. Work with the Visayas Private Practice Manager to liaise with drug stores to promote increased marketing and sales of FP products.
7. Establish working relationships with local LEAD for Health project staff and their LGU counterparts. Obtain information about contraceptive marketing opportunities among LGUs, especially among LGUs that plan to target subsidized services to specific client groups and thereby generate a shift of some former public sector clients to other sources.
8. Advise distributors of contraceptive marketing opportunities among LGUs and as needed, provide technical assistance to establish business relationships between distributors and LGUs.
9. Plan and conduct workshops for distributors' sales forces (detail men) to motivate them to more actively promote their family planning commodities to private practice providers.
10. Participate in Visayas business association and provider association meetings to keep them abreast of project market development activities and emerging business opportunities for distributors.
11. Under the direction of the Market Development Director and the BCC Advisor, manage generic demand generation activities in Visayas.
12. Liaise with local health insurance organizations and regional offices of national health insurance organizations to identify opportunities to expand coverage of FP products and services

Reporting:

The Market Development Manager, Visayas, will report directly to Chemonics' Market Development Director or her designee, who will be responsible for monitoring the manager's overall performance.

Qualifications:

- With at least 15 years experience in marketing of products in the commercial healthcare industry
- Networking experience with health provider associations, pharmaceutical industry associations, business organizations is an advantage
- With at least 10 years managerial experience
- Preferably resident of Cebu
- Excellent in written and oral communications
- Proficient in Word, Excel, Powerpoint

Please email all resumés at jobs@prism.org.ph on or before 8th June 2005

REEDLEY International School

TEACHERS WITH EXPERIENCE TO TEACH (FEMALE/PART TIME):

***FRENCH *GERMAN *JAPANESE**
***MANDARIN *SPANISH *ESL**

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MONA RIZELLE D. AUSTRIA
JNCV Building Pasig Blvd. corner Rosemarie Lane Pasig City 1600

Monde Nissin Corporation

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Area Management Services Representative

Location: North Central Luzon, South Luzon, Visayas or Mindanao

Acts as consultant to internal and external customers in ensuring the smooth implementation of sales and marketing programs and market research activities in a particular area,

☐ Can think out-of-the-box to provide solutions that will bring effective results.
☐ Motivated, pro-active and can work with minimum supervision.
☐ Graduate of any business course.

HR Generalist

Location: Santa Rosa, Laguna

Initiates and executes all HR programs particularly in the fields of staffing, competency assessment and development, employee relations, and organizational development.

☐ Self-motivated, pro-active, agile and has high tolerance for ambiguity
☐ Can work under pressure, and multi-task.
☐ Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or other related disciplines.

Send your resume with 2x2 picture to:
HR Department
Monde Nissin Corporation
22nd flr. 6750 Office Tower,
Ayala Avenue, Makati City
Or Email makati_hr@mondenissin.com

Monde Nissin

PRISM
PRIVATE SECTOR MOBILIZATION FOR FAMILY PLANNING

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Private Practice Services Expansion Director

The PRISM Project is seeking a Director for Expansion of Private Practice for Family Planning services. The overall scope of this position is to work with private practitioners and their organizations to expand private providers of family planning and health services; encourages policy changes among private sector agencies and regulating bodies; promotes and facilitates family planning services in private practice; works to expand private sector financing of these services; and develops and implements training programs for private practitioners.

Qualifications:

- Masters level education/training or its equivalent in business or public health administration, clinical medicine, or related technical fields.
- Thorough knowledge, including practical experience, of private sector health services particularly FP and RH.
- Minimum of 5 years experience working with private practitioners and their associations in implementing FP or health programs.
- Management skills and expertise to coordinate and collaborate with a diverse range of practitioners in the implementation of strategies to increase FP use in the private sector.
- Demonstrated leadership working with other technical advisors, local counterparts in the public and private sectors, policy makers, and project staff.
- Exceptional interpersonal, teamwork, written and verbal communication, and supervisory skills

Submit resumés by June 8, 2005 electronically to EngenderHealth, HR@EngenderHealth.org

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IMMEDIATE JOB OPENING

SALES ENGINEER

- Male or Female, single not more than 30 years old
- B.S. Electrical/Electronics & Communications graduate
- Computer literate on Windows based programs *for training on lighting designs*
- Technical selling experience in lighting fixtures and/or AC/DC variable drives is preferred
- Highly motivated and can perform assigned task by the Top Management

ACCOUNTANT

- Male or Female *(preferably female)*, not more than 30 years old
- Must be a CPA with at least three (3) years experience in general accounting
- Computer literate on windows based program
- Familiarity with the Balmori Accounting Program is a plus

The above positions require good communication skills in English, both oral and written, with pleasing personality and good interpersonal skills.

Interested applicants may send or personally submit their comprehensive resumé, photocopy of college diploma and recent picture to:

TRIGON MERCHANDISING & DEVELOPMENT CORPORATION
Mezzanine Floor Jemtee Bldg. 677 Boni Avenue
cor. Aliw St., Mandaluyong City
Tel. Nos.: 5328102/5320873/5328125
e-mail address: ebm.trigon@pacific.net.ph

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0917-8213082 / 853-0334

SITE ENGINEERS
are required to join a busy civil contractor. Reporting to Project Manager your key responsibilities will include setting out and assisting with the take off and requisition of materials and equipment, supervision of sub-contractors and company operatives, producing scheme programs and estimates, completing company standard returns and reports and quality control. You must be able to show awareness and implement all site safety measures at all times.

If you are a licensed Civil Engineer with two years experience, self-motivated, organized, analytical and able to work under pressure, a team player and reliable, please submit your CV and a covering letter with your transcript of record and diploma to info@vtlaguyo.com or P.O. Box 12260 Ortigas Center Pasig City 1600. You may also call Jonathan at 640-5137 for interview.

V.T. LAGUYO CONSTRUCTION, INC.

PRESCHOOL TEACHERS

BS PSYCH / EDUC or Any related course Female

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Call Tel 421-2595
0927-7522633

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BRANCH MANAGERS (BM-05-05)
(For Cubao-Aurora, Dolores, Kalookan, Malabon-Concepcion, Masangkay, Paco, Quiapo, Sto. Cristo, Tutuban-Prime, Bacolod-Araneta, Baguio, Isabela, Sorsogon)

- Above average business and entrepreneurial skills
- With in-depth knowledge of marketing, credit & lending
- At least five (5) years experience as a Branch Manager in a universal / commercial bank
- Good leadership skills

BRANCH CASHIERS / SERVICE OFFICERS (BC-05-05)
(For Metro Manila area, Cebu-Lapu-Lapu, Ozamis, Pagadian, Zamboanga & Visayas Area)

- Business course graduate
- With extensive experience in cash operations
- Possess good marketing/selling skills
- With strong customer service skills

BRANCH ACCOUNTANTS (BA-05-05)
(For Metro Manila area, Cebu-Guadalupe, Ozamis & Visayas Area)

- With at least three (3) years Branch Operations or Audit experience
- Certified Public Accountant
- Assertive, meticulous and control-oriented
- With customer service skills

REMEDIAL ACCOUNT OFFICERS (RAO-05-05)

- Business course graduate
- At least three (3) years actual remedial management work experience
- Strong negotiating and transaction structuring abilities, highly analytical
- Perceptive, confident, a self-starter, can work well under pressure
- Good communication skills

CREDIT REVIEW ASSOCIATES (CRA-05-05)

- Graduate of Business Management, Economics, Accounting, Finance or other related courses
- With 1-2 years experience in credit review or credit risk management
- Familiar with credit lending process
- Analytical and with keen attention to details
- Good oral and written communication skills
- Adept in the use of MS office applications

HUMAN RESOURCES OFFICERS (HRO-05-05)
(For Head Office & Cebu)

- At least 3 to 5 years experience in recruitment, exposure in training and labor relations is an advantage
- With excellent communication, people management, customer service and negotiation skills
- Preferably Psychology, Behavioral Science or Human Resource Management graduate

SALES OFFICERS FOR HEAD OFFICE, BINONDO & BRANCHES (SO-05-05)

- Marketing experience preferably with deposit portfolio
- With proven track record in account acquisition and maintenance
- With excellent communication & presentation skills
- Fluency in Fookien for Binondo branches

SALES ASSOCIATES (SA-05-05)

- Customer service-driven
- With keen interest in selling & dealing with people
- Pleasing and assertive personality
- Ability to speak Fookien / Mandarin is an advantage for Binondo Branches
- Fresh graduates may apply

ACCOUNT OFFICERS / MARKETING OFFICERS FOR HEAD OFFICE, BINONDO & CEBU (AO-05-05)
(For Corporate, Consumer Finance, Trust & Insurance)

- With three (3) to five (5) years experience in Marketing / Credit / Lending
- For insurance, at least 5 years experience as broker
- Excellent negotiation, presentation and analytical skills
- Aggressive, marketing & results-oriented
- Not more than 35 years old
- Fluency in Fookien for Binondo branches

PROJECT MANAGERS (PM-05-05)

- At least 5 years experience in Software Analysis and Design
- At least 5 years experience in Project Management in a banking environment
- Working knowledge of multiple programming languages and operating systems, and RDBMS

PROGRAMMERS (PROG-05-05)

- Candidate must possess at least a Bachelor's/College Degree in Engineering (Computer/Telecommunication), Computer Science/Infomation Technology or equivalent.
- Knowledgeable in at least two of the following programming languages: C/C+ +, Java, Visual Basic, SQL and UNIX
- Can work with minimum supervision and willing to work overtime
- Fresh graduates may apply

SYSTEMS & METHODS OFFICERS (SMO-05-05)

- With at least three (3) years experience in re-engineering, standards setting and continuous improvement activities gained from the service sector
- Proficient in conducting time and motion studies and methods analysis
- With background in documentation of policies / procedures and systems testing
- With project management experience
- Possess above average communication and presentation skills
- Graduate of BS Industrial Engineering or BS Accountancy; preferably CPA if Accounting graduate

Interested parties are requested to mail their resumé (with position code indicated at the upper right hand corner), transcript of records and 2x2 photo on or before June 10, 2005 to:

Recruitment & Manpower Planning Department - Human Resources Division
12th Floor, China Bank Bldg., 8745 Paseo de Roxas corner Villar Street, Makati City

Or via E-mail: **recruitment@chinabank.ph** with position code indicated on the subject line.

www.chinabank.ph

CLIENTLOGIC

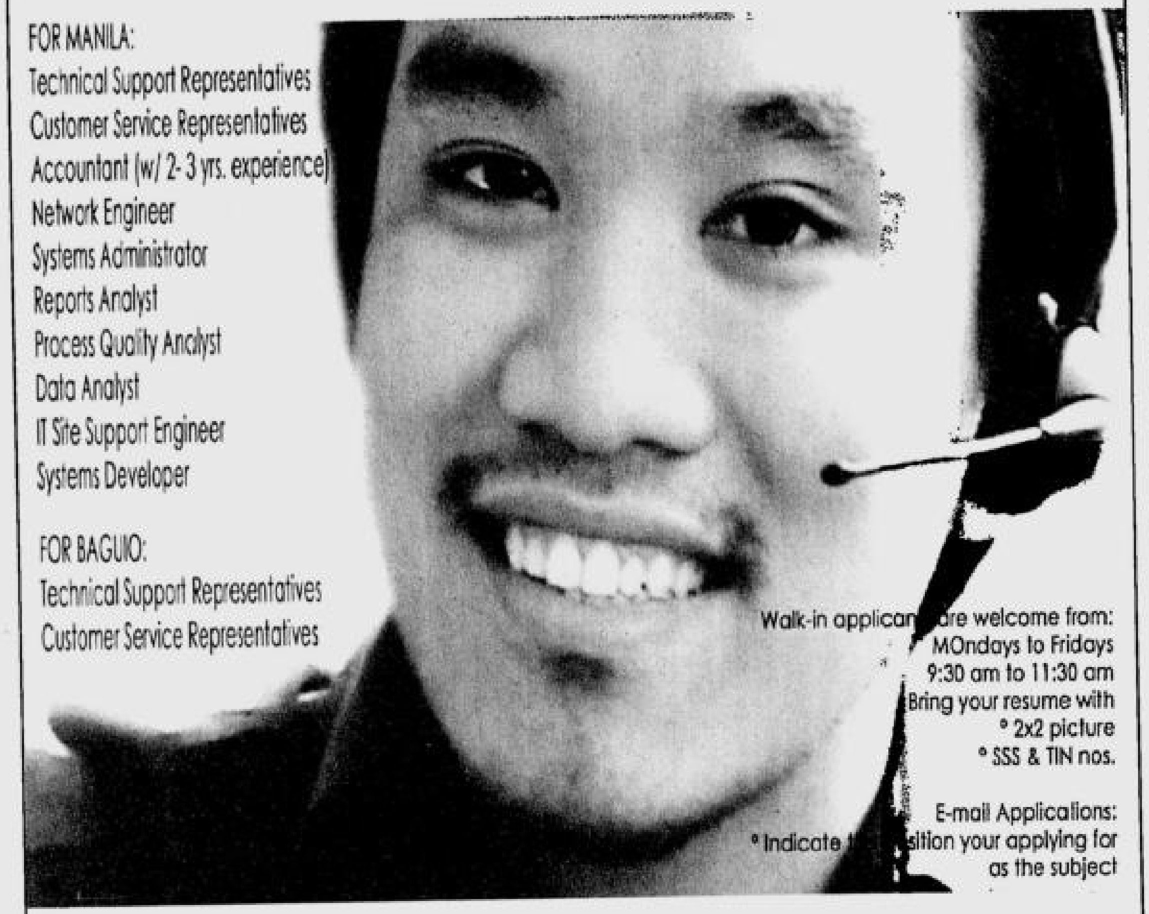
Philippines Inc.

Ortigas Center Baguio City

22/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Ave. Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600
E-mail: recruitment@clientlogic.com.ph www.clientlogic.com

FOR MANILA:
Technical Support Representatives
Customer Service Representatives
Accountant (w/ 2-3 yrs. experience)
Network Engineer
Systems Administrator
Reports Analyst
Process Quality Analyst
Data Analyst
IT Site Support Engineer
Systems Developer

FOR BAGUIO:
Technical Support Representatives
Customer Service Representatives



Walk-in applican[illegible]re welcome from:
MOndays to Fridays
9:30 am to 11:30 am
Bring your resume with
° 2x2 picture
° SSS & TIN nos.

E-mail Applications:
° Indicate [illegible]sition your applying for
as the subject

my choice my career my growth

PASIG: Mon to Fri (9:30 am-11:30 am) May 30 - June 3 ° 22/F Wynsum Corporate Plaza, Emerald Ave, Ortigas Center, Pasig

BAGUIO: Mon to Fri (9am-5pm) May 30 - June 3 ° Baguio Economic Zone, Loakan Rd., Baguio City

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Assistant Economics and Statistics Analyst

Description of Responsibilities

The position is responsible for providing technical and administrative support in the development and maintenance of the statistical database system (SDBS), and for the preparation of statistical tables for statistical publications and ADB operations. Specific responsibilities include:

1. Assisting the data administrator in maintaining the SDBS classification/coding systems, in monitoring the data schema, and in testing new application modules for SDBS;
2. Contributing to the effective maintenance of SDBS by updating and preserving the reliability of data in his/her assigned DMCs files in SDBS by employing data gathered from official correspondence from statistical contacts in the DMCs, statistical publications, electronic databases from other international organization and other sources;
3. Assisting in the timely completion and accurate preparation of statistical publications/reports produced by Development Indicators and Policy Research (ERDI) by generating and/or constructing statistical tables and documents, and also by editing and proofreading these documents; and
4. Performing other related duties that may be assigned by immediate supervisor and/or Assistant Chief Economist;

Reporting Arrangements

The position reports to the Assistant Chief Economist, ERDI, Economics and Research Department (ERD).

Selection Criteria

- Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level,
- A bachelor degree in Statistics, Economics, Computer Science, or related fields;
- At least five years relevant work experience, preferably in statistical databases;
- Extensive experience in using data analysis software such as STATA, SAS, and SPSS;
- Thorough knowledge of MS Excel, MS Powerpoint and MS Word;
- Good oral and written communication skills in English; and
- Ability to work well as part of a team.

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting Ref. No. EXT-AS05-101(4)-ERDI and job title on subject line and attaching application form available on www.adb.org/Employment/appform.asp to e-mail address: CS-jobs@adb.org by 3 June 2005.

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

www.adb.org

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A-M PHIL PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CORP.
POEA – 132-LB-081304-PL.

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ALMARJ SERVICES-Acct. No 237928

MATERIAL ENGINEER (10)
PLANNING ENGINEER (10)
PLUMBING ENGINEER (10)
QUANTITY SURVEYOR (10)
ENGINEER (30)
FOREMAN (10)
ASST. COST CONTROLLER (3)
QA/QC HEAD (6)
QA/QC SUPERVISOR (5)
HVAC CAD OPERATOR (10)
TRAILER MECHANIC (5)
HYDRAULIC MECHANIC (5)
ELECTRICIAN/ AIR CON TECH. FOR HEAVY EQUIP. (2)
TIRE MAN FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT (2)
TURNER TECHNICIAN FOR HEAVY EQUIPMENT (1)
HEAVY EQUIPMENT MECHANIC/MOTOR 1ST CLASS (5)

QUALIFICATION: At least 5 years of experience

Pls. Apply personally & bring the ff: 2 sets of Resumé, 4 pcs. of 2x2 colored pictures, Diploma (high school/college), Copy of passport, NBI, Cert. of employment at:

A-M PHIL. PROFESSIONAL SRVS. CORP.
#34 MAYA ST. MARVILLE PARK I ANTIPOLO CITY
(IN FRONT OF YNARES CENTER)
Tel. **630-0476** Fax: 696-3470
E-mail: amphilpro@aol.com amphilservices@yahoo.com
*Office open Monday-Friday 9am-3pm
No fees to be collected For Manpower Pooling only
Beware of Illegal Recruiters

ACCOUNTING STAFF & CASHIER

Responsible in specific accounting activities and perform the cashier function.

Qualifications:

1. A holder of a course Baccalaureate Degree in Business Administration or Commerce Major in Accounting (CPA)
2. At least 4 years experience in Accounting work
3. Computer literate
4. Can communicate in English language
5. Must have at excellent work ethic

Send Biodata and resumé to:

Administrator
MCPO Box 1386, 1253 Makati City

A FAST GROWING FOOD DISTRIBUTOR IS IN NEED OF:

SALES EXECUTIVES

a. Male or Female, 25-30 years old
b. College graduate with at least 2 years sales experience
c. Good communication skills, aggressive and motivated
d. Hard working and willing to travel outside Metro Manila
e. Preferably with experience in grocery sales & distribution

MAIL RECENT 2X2 ID PICTURE AND RESUMÉ TO
SBIC 2/F 10 J Caparas St. Brgy. Ugong, Pasig, Metro Manila
or send your resumés via E-MAIL : hr@suncoastbrands.com

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Exclusive franchisee for some of the finest international names in fashion like Gucci, Prada, Philippe Charriol, Salvatore Ferragamo, Burberry, Kate Spade, Tod's, Armani Exchange, Lacoste, Calvin Klein, Nine West, Polo Ralph Lauren, Bass, Bally, Anne Klein, Kenneth Cole, DKNY, Diesel, Coach, Beauty Bar, Lush, Make Room and more

Is in immediate need of top caliber

MERCHANDISE MANAGERS

- Female, between 26-35 years old
- Graduate of a four (4) year business related course or Fashion Merchandising
- With at least two (2) years work experience preferably in the same/related field
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must be analytical and results-oriented
- Must have good fashion sense
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality, impeccable integrity and good moral character
- Must be computer literate

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO E-MAIL OR SEND IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.
Human Resources Management Division
(C/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: embaysa@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

A fast growing Japanese company at Mactan Economic Zone, Lapu-Lapu City, Cebu is in need of:

MANAGERS

GENERAL QUALIFICATIONS

- Male or Female, 30 years old and above
- Graduate of a reputable University with good scholastic records
- Should originally be from Cebu or Visayas
- Must have exemplary communication and leadership skills
- Able to speak and understand Cebuano

A. ADMIN MANAGER

- With at least 5 years experience in Admin Management
- Can deal with people of different cultures
- Must have vast experience in handling people

B. PRODUCTION MANAGER

- A graduate of any Engineering course
- Must possess the expertise in the field of Assembly Operations/ Production or Plant facilities
- Must have vast technical expertise

C. GENERAL PLANNING MANAGER

- Have at least 2 years experience in handling people
- Must have vast experience in ISO Certification as management representative
- Knowledgeable in the implementation of kaizen, lean production, GS etc...,

Interested Applicants can **e-mail** their Application Letter, Resumé w/ 2x2 Photo, and photocopy of TOR to:
hrd_section@yahoo.com

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Main business areas : State of the art papermaking system, modern conveying solution, metal fabrication and professional engineering services.

SALES ENGINEER

- Self-motivated, excellent communication skills and creative with the drive to succeed
- BS degree in Mechanical or Industrial Engineering
- Familiar with the Pulp & Paper Industry
- Excellent customer service orientation
- Willing to travel (must have driver's license)
- Would have opportunity to travel overseas on training

Applicants may send their resumé with contact number and the most recent 2x2 picture or bring their application to:

HRD Officer
1642 San Marcelino Street
Malate, Metro Manila
Tel. 523-9011 to 14; Fax 521-7030 & 521-7989

MILLENNIUM CHEMICAL RESOURCES

A chemical firm engaged in Sales of Preventive Maintenance Chemicals, Lubricants, and Special Paints is in need of:

(10) MARKET SPECIALIST:

- Female not more than 27 years old with pleasing personality
- Graduate of any course (graduates of business related course would have a definite advantage).

WE OFFER Lucrative salary package, commission scheme, transportation allowance, monthly incentives

The successful candidate must value the importance of long-term career profession, willing to handle work in a pressure-filled atmosphere, goal-oriented and self-motivated, and with efficient communication skills

THIS IS AN IMMEDIATE HIRING!!!

APPLY in PERSON with your comprehensive Resumé,
Transcript of Records, 2x2 picture,
from May 23 to June 3, 2005
SUCCESSFUL applicants will be CALLED for interview.

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(former K-D) Kamuning, Quezon City.
Tel. No. 928-1624 / 990-8881 • email: mcr_inc@hotmail.com

FRANCHISE & BUSINESS EXCHANGE

URGENT HIRING

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Account Executives
Accounting Officers
Operations Supervisors
Contributing Writers
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Service Crews

ROP BUSINESS PROVIDER CORPORATION
[illegible]
Tel. No.: 632-0353
Interview Schedule: Monday - Wednesday

Assistant Financial Systems Analyst

Description of Responsibilities

The position provides functional support to Oracle Application system to ensure that users' requirements are met and the necessary internal control and documentation is addressed; reports directly to Head of Section in charge of Systems in Controller's Department (CTL). Specific responsibilities include:

1. Assisting in Oracle Application Modules including implementing system upgrades, by reviewing and analyzing users' requirements, identifying details gaps solutions, conducting fit analysis, communicating with Office of Information Systems and Technology (OIST) on related technical requirements, and assisting users in testing and training before promoting to production environment;
2. Analyzing and trouble shooting systems errors/problems encountered by Oracle users with the assistance of OIST;
3. Providing training and post implementation support to functional users of the Oracle systems, including processors, verifiers and approvers;
4. Providing inputs to the Department's activities relating to systems designs, users' requirements, etc, for new applications and related new projects;
5. Assisting in coordinating activities with different project teams throughout the project's implementation phases;
6. Arranging and attending meetings of assigned project teams, and preparing summary notes of minutes;
7. Assisting in reviewing business processes with a view to improve and enhance control and efficiency; monitoring project status and follow-ups with users and related parties to ensure timely implementation of project tasks;
8. Undertaking related system administration assignments as required;
9. Preparing draft status reports, correspondence, presentation materials, charts/graphs and other related documents and maintaining proper filing of project documentation;
10. Coordinating, facilitating, obtaining and providing required information in accordance with established procedures, in a tactful manner; and
11. Performing any other assignments as required, including preparation of draft memoranda and external correspondence for supervisor's review.

Reporting Arrangements

The position reports to the Financial Control Specialist, Financial Systems and Control Section (CTAC-FSC), CTL.

Selection Criteria

- Suitability to undertake the responsibilities mentioned above at the required level;
- A bachelor degree in Computer Science or Business Administration with major in Accounting; a Certified Public Accountant designation;
- At least five years experience in business application development, system designs and analysis, with a minimum of three years working experience with Oracle Application software packages;
- Familiarity with application softwares such as Microsoft Office (Word, Excel, PowerPoint), Lotus Notes, Lotus Notes Mail, and in-depth knowledge with relevant working experience with Oracle system development and maintenance;
- Good interpersonal communication skills, and ability to supervise staff and promote team work;
- Good understanding of internal control concepts and business processes to facilitate the evaluation of risk assessment and control;
- Proficient understanding of general accounting concepts and principles, and the application thereof;
- Analytical, systematic and strong numerical skills, and attention to details;
- Excellent oral and written skills in English; and
- Ability to plan and coordinate schedules in order to meet deadlines.

The Asian Development Bank's vision is a region free of poverty. Established in 1966 and headquartered in Manila, Philippines, ADB's multicultural staff come from about 50 member countries. ADB's Headquarters in Manila generally recruits its administrative staff locally from the Philippines. The position is for a three-year fixed-term appointment. ADB offers a highly competitive salary and benefits package applicable to local staff. While the position advertised is for ADB Headquarters in Manila, Philippines, ADB staff must be prepared to serve in any location outside its Headquarters at the discretion of Management.

Apply electronically, quoting **Ref. No. EXT-AS05-058(4)-CTAC-FSC** and job title on subject line and attaching application form available on www adb.org/Employment/appform.asp to e-mail address: CS-jobs@adb.org by **3 June 2005.**

Due to the expected large number of applications, only shortlisted candidates will be contacted. Applications lacking the job reference number and job title or using the wrong e-mail address will not be considered.

Asian Development Bank ADB
FIGHTING POVERTY IN ASIA AND THE PACIFIC

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Helicopter Pilots
Avionics and Radio Technicians
Airframe and Power Mechanics

Applications are invited from persons with experience in installation, maintenance, repairs and servicing of light helicopters (Jet Rangers 206B and Hughes 500C and D). Single accommodation provided. Married accommodation may be considered where appropriate. Applicants should provide full details of their trade qualifications, industry experience, employment history, including full details of experience on various installations and equipment types. Applications should be made at the earliest to:

HR Manager
Box # KA-035-05 HP
Philippine Daily Inquirer
c/o Classified Ads Division
TM Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila

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We are looking for highly caliber individual to join to our team!

Management Trainee

- Female, 22-25 years old
- Graduate of BSHRM, Marketing and other related course
- Knowledgeable in Store Management Operations

HR/Training Assistant

- Female, not more than 25 years old
- Graduate of Behavioral Science or any related course
- Can prepare and execute training modules
- At least one year exposure in same nature of work
- Articulate and computer literate

Purchasing Assistant

- Female, 24-27 years old
- Graduate of Business course w/ units in accounting
- Experience in same position is required
- Computer literate and has good communication skills

OTHER POSITIONS: ACCOUNTING STAFF, TEAM MEMBER/CREW

Interested applicants are requested to apply and submit their resumé with recent 2x2 picture and other credentials at:

Cheesecake, etc.
Suite 2002, 20th The Orient Square Bldg.
Emerald Avenue, Ortigas, Pasig City
Tel. Nos. 687-0859 or 687-1685

*previous applicants need not apply

Stores Specialists, Inc.

Exclusive franchisee for some of the finest international names in fashion like Gucci, Prada, Philippe Charriol, Salvatore Ferragamo, Burberry, Kate Spade, Tod's, Armani Exchange, Lacoste, Calvin Klein, Nine West, Polo Ralph Lauren, Bass, Bally, Anne Klein, Kenneth Cole, DKNY, Diesel, Coach, Beauty Bar, Lush, Make Room and more

Is in immediate need of top caliber individuals...

HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICER

- Female; between 24-30 years old
- Graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science or Human Resource Management
- Preferably with one (1) year experience in recruitment and other areas of HR work
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality and can deal well with all levels in the organization
- Must be people-oriented, analytical, and highly motivated
- Must be computer literate

BOUTIQUE MANAGERS / SALES SUPERVISORS

- Between 23-35 years old; at least 5'2 in height
- Graduate of a four (4) year course
- Preferably with work experience in a fashion retail establishment
- Must possess a pleasing and aggressive personality
- Must be very good in customer relations
- Must be willing to work on weekends and holidays
- Must be proficient in both oral and written communications
- Must be computer literate

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO E-MAIL OR SEND IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.
Human Resources Management Division
(C/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: embaysa@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

The **PHILIPPINE ELECTRICITY MARKET CORPORATION (PEMC)** is the corporation created to manage and govern the Philippine **WHOLESALE ELECTRICITY SPOT MARKET** (WESM). The WESM will be the venue for the competitive and transparent trading of electricity.

PEMC is seeking qualified, highly-motivated individuals with a deep sense to integrity and professionalism for the following **CAREER OPPORTUNITIES**:

Human Resources and Organizational Development Officer

With any college degree and at least three (3) years work experience in human resources and organizational development in the private sector, and has had direct experience in recruitment and benefits administration; as well as development and implementation of HRD programs and employment policies. The candidate must possess good interpersonal skills, be able to work independently and keep multiple tasks progressing.

Accountant

C.P.A. with a B.S. degree in Business Administration major in accounting and at least three (3) years experience in financial statement preparation and related work (or Post Graduate degree with at least two (2) years relevant experience). Computer literate, able to work with minimum supervision, has knowledge of the latest BIR rulings, revenue issuances and the updated statements of the Accounting Standards Council (ASC). The successful candidate must be able to work independently and be willing to work beyond the regular working hours.

Network Administrator

With a degree in B.S. Computer Science or Engineering and at least three (3) years work experience (or a Post Graduate degree and at least two (2) years relevant experience) in installation, configuration, operation and maintenance of inter-network operating systems of data communication equipment. Successful candidates will have had work experience in the implementation of network security and have had related experience in network system disaster and recovery procedures.

Systems Administrator

With a degree in B.S. Computer Science or Engineering with at least three (3) years work experience (or Post Graduate degree and two (2) years relevant experience) in administering and monitoring server operating systems and ensuring security and proper integration of multiple sites, operation and maintenance of multi-tier heterogeneous mid-range UNIX-based and/or mainframe computer systems and installation, configuration and maintenance of Linux/MS Windows operating systems and in computer disaster and recovery procedures.

Successful candidates can expect a fulfilling career and advancement opportunities in a dynamic work environment.

Interested applicants may send their application letter (stating position applied for), curriculum vitae, diploma, transcript of records and relevant supporting documents to –

Market Operator

B.S. Engineering with at least 3 years experience (or Post Graduate with at least 2 years relevant experience) in power transmission and generation. Candidates with experience related to Electricity Markets, literate in computer operation and documentation software tools, and with excellent oral and written communication skills are strongly preferred.

Administrative Services Department
9th Floor Robinsons-Equitable Tower
ADB Avenue, Ortigas Center, Pasig City 1600
e-mail: rrcdelapena@wesm.ph

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If you...
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Have...
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- An opportunity to build a monthly income of **P30,000.00 to P75,000.00** with travel incentives
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If these motivate you, please come for a group interview on **Monday, May 30, 2005 or Thursday, June 2, 2005 at 2 30 pm at 604 Galleria Corp., Center Robinsons Galleria, Edsa Ortigas, Q.C.** **Please bring your Bio Data and recent photo**

Bring this Ad with you and ask for Ms. Jonah Olipano

TULOY FOUNDATION, INC.
Tuloy sa Don Bosco Street Chapel Village
Alabang-Zapote Rd. cor. San Jose St. (Beside Elsa Clothes Comp.)
Alabang, Muntinlupa City
Tel. Nos. 7750484/85 Telefax: (632) 775-0483
E-mail: fr_rocky@yahoo.com http://www.tuloy.org

JOB OPENINGS

Tuloy sa Don Bosco School in Alabang is dedicated to the training of streetchildren and out-of school youth from depressed areas:

We are looking for:

TEACHERS

- Male/Female
- Licensed 1-2 years experience in teaching Mathematics, Science, English, P.E., Computer Arts, and Work Education
- We will consider fresh graduates with impressive scholastic credentials.

PSYCHOLOGIST

- Psychology graduate
- At least 3-5 years experience in clinical psychology, pscyhological assessment, therapy sessions and counseling in a school/clinic set-up.

EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

- Female
- 35-45 years old
- High level of maturity
- High regard for confidentiality

Our clientele are very special to us. Hence, we are looking for personnel with a sense of commitment, creativity, high level of maturity and effective people management.

We will pay a salary commensurate to your qualifications.

Due to urgency of our requirements, please hand-carry your RESUMÉ to our HRD Dept., Alabang-Zapote Road Corner San Jose St., Alabang, Muntinlupa City or E-mail hrd_tuloy@yahoo.com (or call at 775-0484 to 85, 775-0683) c/o Cris L. Salillas

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ATTENTION:

EXPERIENCED PHYSICAL THERAPIST

- Great working opportunity waiting for you in West Palm Beach, Florida, USA.
- To work in a home health care setting and on an outpatient rehab center.
- Great pay with benefits and excellent working condition.

Please send your resumé to jadams24@bellsouth.net. The recruiter will be in Manila to conduct interview and seminars beginning June 03, 2005.

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5 SOCIO-ECONOMIC OFFICERS For Private Social Development Org'n

- College graduate / Undergraduate of any course
- 21-28 years old
- with or without experience
- willing to serve the poor
- hardworking, honest, quick learner

Apply with bio data at #9 Don Rafael St. Don Enrique Hts. Holy Spirit, Q.C.
Tel.: 931-4335 (Reza)

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784 EDSA, Quezon City • Tel. No. 435-65-70
POEA 109-LB-051603-R

SECRETARY OF MANPOWER & TRAINING AND SECRETARY OF HEALTH, Tripoli Libya

Intensive Care Unit Nurse
Operating Nurse
Anesthesia Nurse
Dialysis Nurse
Dental Technician
General Duty Nurse
Cardiac Surgery Nurse
Neurology Nurse
X-ray Technician
Midwife
Medical Technician
Chemo Therapist
Therapeutic Technician
Plaster Technician

- Above categories must have 2 years minimum experience, 20-48 years old, male or female with authenticated School records.

NATURAL COMFORT SERVICES SDN BHD, Brunei Darussalam

Civil Engineer
Finishing Carpentry
Laundry Assistant
Tile Setter
Painter
Laundry Supervisor
Driver
Baker Helper
Sewerage Helper
Pest Control Technician w/ driving license.

Above categories must have 2-3 years experience, 25 years above, fluent in English, able to prepare reports, willing to work long hours, able to work under pressure, with driving license.

GOLDENMAN SERVICES, Doha Qatar

Fashion Designer – male or female, can speak fluent English
Beautician – female only, with or without gulf experience
Master Cutter – with or without gulf experience
Finishing Carpenter – with experience in gulf area
Upholsterer – with gulf experience
Carpet Designer & Fixer – can speak and understand English
Requirements . 3 sets of resumé, diploma, NBI, employment certificates, orig. passport.
Domestic Helper – ages 25-45 yrs. old. FLY NOW PAY LATER

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MANAGERIAL/TECHNICAL

We are a leading Glass Processing Company in need of reliable individuals for the position(s):

MARKETING ASSISTANT – Male/Female; not more than 30 years of age; fresh graduates are welcomed; preferably with driving capability; with pleasing personality; with good communication skills; aggressive; can work independently or with a group; should possess basic computer skills.
CODE: MA

PRODUCTION COORDINATOR – Male/Female; not more than 30 years of age; preferably Industrial Engineering Graduate or at least have attained 3rd year of the said course; preferably with knowledge in scheduling; with knowledge in production reporting and documentation; aggressive, analytical and assertive,
CODE: PC

QUALITY ASSURANCE OFFICER – Male/Female; not more than 30 years of age; fresh graduates are welcomed; have attained vocational/technical course; computer literate; preferably with experience in in-process inspection familiar with measuring and quality control equipment.
CODE: QA

QUALITY ASSURANCE CREW – Male/female; not more than 30 years of age; undergraduates are accepted; willing to learn; able to interpret engineering drawings.
CODE: QAC

All applicants must reside in the vicinity of Mandaluyong, San Juan, Pasig, Quezon City, Makati, Manila, Marikina.

Submit resumé with recent 2x2 photo and indicate CODE for the position being applied for. Send to:

P.O. Box SM-473
Sta. Mesa, Manila 1016
Or the Philippine Daily Inquirer
Box KA-033-05 KG
Ground Floor, Trinity Bldg,
No 636 TM Kalaw St., Ermita,
Or E-mail to **verre_maison101@yahoo.com**
Subject: Employment

TELESALES / TELEMARKETING REPRESENTATIVE

Qualifications:
- Female, 25-35 years old .
- Bachelor degree in Business or Marketing preferred
- 3-5 years telemarketing / sales experience
- Abilty to speak Chinese, though not essential would be an advantage

Requirements:
- Great Communication Skills
- Knowledge in basic arithmetic
- MS Excel and Words proficient
- Superior follow-up skills
- Effective interpersonal skills
- Personable character
- Computer literate

Send your resumé / application to:

Triplex Enterprises Inc.
2255 Don Chino Roces Ave.
Makati City, Philippines
Beside Makati Cinema Square

Look for **Ms. Julie Buen** or **Ms. Loret Orito**

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Victor brand of badminton products in the Philippines, seeks **PROMO GIRLS** and **MARKETING ASSISTANTS** for its aggressive and progressive expansion to be assigned to different malls..

PROMO GIRLS
- with pleasing personality
- at least college level
- below 25 years old
- teachable, aggressive, hardworking, trustworthy
- with good communication skills
- experience in badminton a plus but not required

MARKETING ASSISTANTS
- female
- knowledgeable with graphics/conceptualization
- computer proficient
- teachable, aggressive, hardworking, trustworthy
- with good communication skills
- experience in badminton a plus but not required
- newly graduates are welcome to apply

Successful candidates for Promo Girls await good compensation and allowances; good performances will be rewarded and promoted for supervisory positions within 5 months.

Interested applicants may apply in person with your resumé at:

PCOME INDUSTRIAL SALES INC.
Ground Floor, Unit 2, #617 Segundo Place
Gen. Segundo St. cor. Gen. De Jesus St. San Juan, Manila
Telephone Number: (02) 7262726
Email address: victorpcome@yahoo.com

Requirements for Mining Engineer and Exploration Geologist Positions

Mining Engineer
- Must be a Registered and Licensed Mining Engineer
- Must have a good moral character
- Not more than 40 years old
- Must have at least 10 years of Sr. Supervisory or Managerial Experience in actual mining operations
- Must have basic computer knowledge
- Willing to travel around the Philippines

Exploration Geologist
- Must be a Registered and Licensed Geologist
- Must have a good morale character
- Must have at least 10 years work experience especially in exploration
- Must have basic computer knowledge
- Capable of handling an exploration project

Please mail your applications to:

The Manager
Box # MN-TE-05
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
Classifieds Ads Division
Yague & Mascardo Sts.
cor. Chino Roces Avenue
Makati City

Don Bosco Technical Institute
Chino Roces Ave., Makati City
Tel. No. 892-0101 to 04

Don Bosco Technical Institute, a private Catholic educational institution is in need of individuals to fill in the following positions:

Grade School Teacher
- Male/Female, between 23-30 years old
- Graduate of Bachelor of Elementary Education / Bachelor of Science in Elementary Education with specialization in Math / Sibika / Language / Religious Education
- Bachelor in Early Childhood Education

Music Teacher
- Male, between 25-30 years old
- Graduate of Bachelor of Music major in Music Education (piano & voice)

Technical Teacher
- Male, between 25-30 years old
- Graduate of Bachelor of Science in Industrial Education major in Electrical Technology
- Graduate of Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering with certification of teaching

Interested applicants must also possess the following:
- ☐ Teaching license
- ☐ Good communication Skills
- ☐ Preferably with teaching experience and computer literate
- ☐ Roman Catholic

Applicants are requested to bring personally their comprehensive resumé with recent photo together with a photocopy of transcript of records and professional ID license to the Human Resource Office not later than June 3, 2005.

The BRITISH EMBASSY

seeks a

PROJECT MANAGER
(1-year contract)

The British Embassy are looking for a bright, self-starting university graduate with the ability to develop, support and monitor projects related to one or more of the following areas: economic governance, corporate social responsibility and promoting free trade and investment. Good spoken and written English and strong project management skills will be essential, together with at least three years of professional experience. Starting date: end-June 2005. Applications received after 12 noon on the 9th June 2005 will not be considered.

Please provide a brief outline of why you think you would be suitable for the job, your CV (maximum of 2 pages), two references, NBI Clearance, and a certified true copy of any form of ID, as well as 4 photographs in an A4 envelop addressed to:

HR Manager (EG Slot)
17/F LV Locsin Building
6752 Ayala Avenue
Makati City 1220

Architectural Firm
needs

3D / CAD Renderer

Must be:
- a BS Architecture graduate
- proficient in Autocad ADT, Adobe Photoshop, 3D Studio, 3D Max
- Can do quick 3D wireframes, 3D massings, animated walk-throughs and fully rendered interior and exterior perspectives.

Please send your resumé to:

1805C West Tower, PSE Centre
Exchange Road, Ortigas, Pasig City
or fax to 638-5821

Previous applicants need not apply.

CARE – Philippines, a non-government humanitarian organization fighting poverty, is searching for qualified candidates for:

PROJECT OFFICER

The work primarily involves the implementation of CARE Philippines' Community-based Disaster Reduction Project in Calabanga, Camarines Sur under the Disaster Management (DM) Program. S/he will undertake community and school-based training activities, coordinate with local partners, write project reports, and carry out documentation of best practices. Additional local travel to other project areas of CARE will be required, but not on a regular basis.

Applicants should have at least a bachelor's degree and 3 years relevant experience in social development, preferably in the area of disaster management. S/he must possess excellent analytical skills, the appropriate values consistent with social development work, good communication and interpersonal skills, competent written English and be computer literate. Email **recruitment@care.org.ph** for full details of the job description, qualifications and application process. The salary for this item will be P13,000. Submit resumé by June 13, 2005 to: The DM Program Officer, CARE Philippines, 3rd Flr., Luisa 2 Bldg., 107 Maginhawa St., Teachers Village East, Quezon City, Tel. Nos. 928-8246 / 928-8256.

Stores Specialists, Inc.

Is in immediate need of a top caliber individual for...

MakeRoom

"THE TOTAL STORAGE AND ORGANIZATION SPECIALIST"

MERCHANDISING ASSISTANT
- Female; between 23-29 years old
- Preferably a graduate of Interior Design or any four (4) year business related course
- With at least six (6) months work experience preferably in the same/related field
- Must have excellent oral and written communication skills
- Must be analytical and results-oriented
- Must possess a pleasing and dynamic personality
- Must be computer literate

We welcome applicants from CITEM and Philippine School of Interior Design

QUALIFIED APPLICANTS ARE REQUESTED TO E-MAIL OR SEND IMMEDIATELY THEIR COMPREHENSIVE RESUMÉ, TRANSCRIPT OF RECORDS AND A RECENT 2X2 PHOTO TO:

STORES SPECIALISTS, INC.
Human Resources Management Division
(C/o Executive Administration)
Ground Floor Midland Buendia Bldg.
403 Sen. Gil Puyat Avenue, Makati City
E-mail address: embaysa@rgoc.com.ph

(We will reply to qualified applicants only)

Like it easy!
HOME 97 dot 9 MANILA RADIO

is in urgent need of

ENGINEERING STAFF
- Licensed 1st Class GRCO or Licensed ECE
- Male , 21 – 30 years old, personable

PRODUCTION STAFF
- Masscom Graduate
- Male or Female, 21 to 30 years old
- Good written and oral communication
- Experienced in doing production works is an advantage

Due to the urgency of the requirement, applicants are advised to apply personally and bring resumé, transcript of records, 2x2 colored picture at:

ALIW BROADCASTING CORPORATION
5th Floor Citystate Centre, 709 Shaw Blvd. Pasig City
Tel# 637-3965 to 70, Fax # 633-9162
Email: taongyaman@speed.info.com.ph
taong_yaman@yahoo.com

Join Our Team
For Immediate Hiring

ACCOUNTING CLERK/SECRETARY
- Female, 20-30 years old; college graduate
- Computer literate (e.g. Excel)
- With experience in cashiering is an advantage

CASHIERS/SERVICE CREW
- Male or female, 20-28 years old
- At least 5'2' in height
- With pleasing personality
- At least 2nd year college;
- With experience in any food chain is a must

LANEMAN MECHANIC
- Male, 30-35years old
- With good moral character
- At least 2 years experience in electrical or computer repair

Send your resumé at:

PLAYDIUM

26 Tagupo St. corner Araneta Avenue, Quezon City
Tel. No. 732-0289, 732-0304
Email: playdium@skyinet.net
www.playdiumbowling.com

BROOKSLAKE GARMENT
MANUFACTURING CORP.
Block C #9 K, Porong Street, Punturin
Valenzuela City 1447

One (1) ACCOUNTING STAFF
- M/F at least 25-30 years old, BS Accountancy, board passer preferred
- Minimum two years experience in Accounts Management and Financial Analysis
- Proficient in English oral and written communication
- Computer literate a must.

One (1) ACCOUNTING OFFICER:
- M/F graduate of BS Accountancy, 30 years and above, CPA board passer
- At least 5 years managerial experience in the field of accounting (Accounts Management and Financial Analysis)
- Well versed in government accounting and government procurement procedure
- Strong leadership and highly analytical
- Effective in English oral and written communication, Cantonese speaking an advantage

Applications accepted from Mondays-Fridays, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. only
You may also email your curriculum vitaé at ireneb_ph@fashionexperess.com.hk

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OUR COMPANY IS IN NEED OF EXPERTS!!!

HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICERS
- Graduate of BS Psychology, Management, Economic or Business Management
- Preferably Female, Single/married, 25-28 years old
- At least 3 year experience in handling HR function in a manufacturing firm
- Knowledgeable of all HR functions such as Payroll, Recruitment, Compensation & Benefits etc.

Interested applicants encouraged to apply personally at:

The Human Resources Department
1 Pinesville St. cor. Katipunan Ave.,
Whiteplains Subd., Quezon City

We Need You!

A leading U.S. Hair restoration company seeks stylists for our modern center in the Ortigas area.

- **Hair Replacement Systems Stylist**
- **A strong sales background and previous experience with hair replacement systems required.**
- **Base pay + commission.**

E-mail resume to: nuharthr@aol.com

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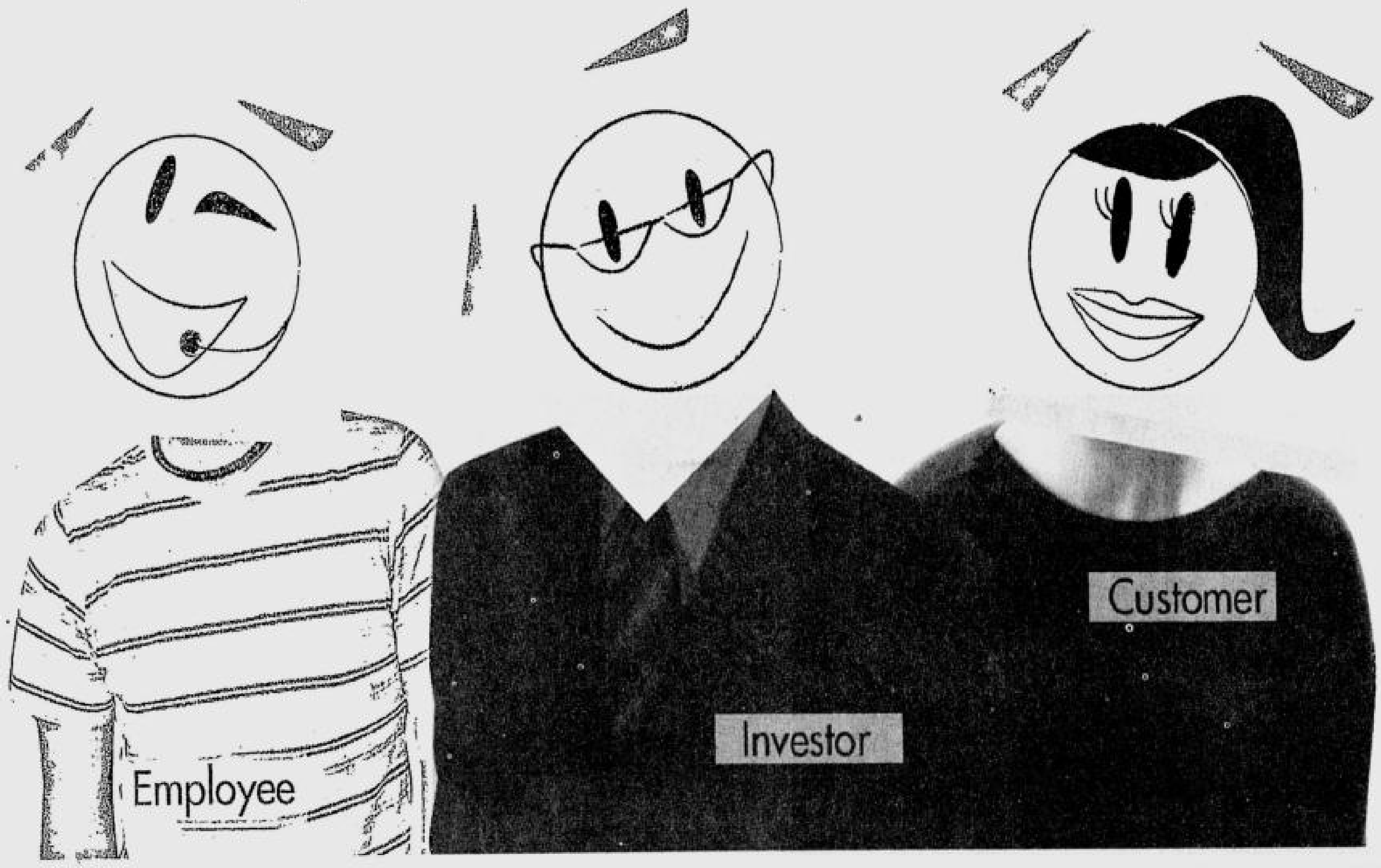

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Daksh PBCom Job Fair!

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- 5th Floor IBM Plaza
  Eastwood CyberPark Libis, Quezon City
  May 30 - June 1 . 9-5 PM
- 32nd Floor PBCom Tower
  Ayala Avenue, Makati City
  May 30 - June 3 . 9-5 PM

You may reach us at: 81-DAKSH (32574)
Email us: *applications@daksh.com*
or visit our website: *www.daksh.com.ph*

OPPORTUNITIES AT IBM DAKSH:

Customer Care Specialist

Responsible for providing excellent customer service and inbound sales by phone on a 24x7 basis

Job Requirements:
- Graduate of any Bachelor's Degree
- Willingness and drive to do inbound sales is required;
- Previous experience is an advantage
- Must possess excellent oral and written English communication skills
- Must be proficient in the use of computers and various applications
- Willingness to work in a fast-paced, dynamic and schedule-shifting environment is a must

Support & Leadership Posts:

Quality Assurance Specialists
Quality Team Leaders
Voice & Accent Trainers
Product Trainers
Team Leaders
Operations Managers
Recruitment Manager

Previous call center experience is a must.

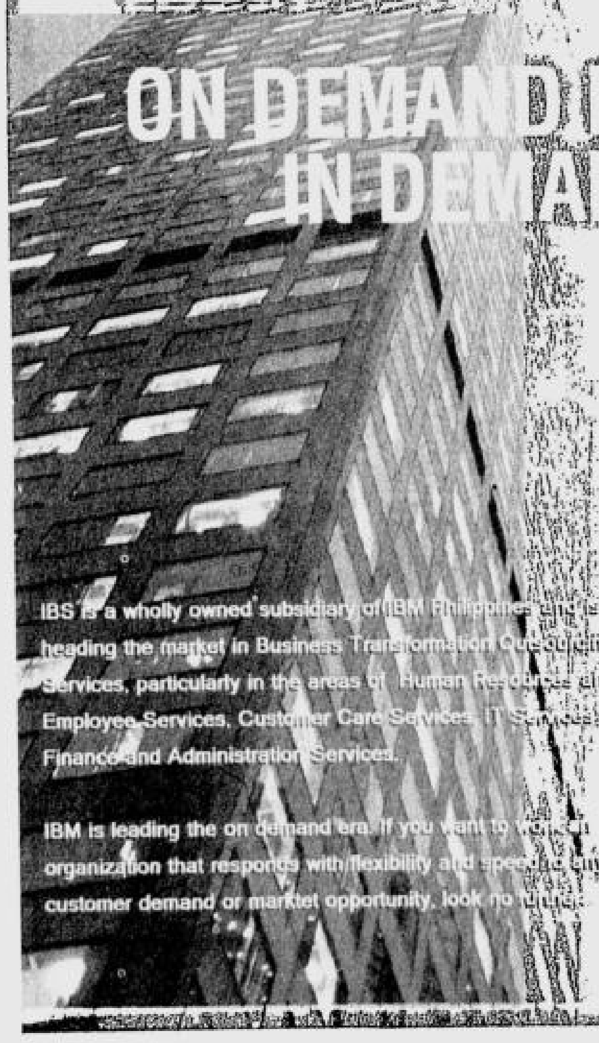
IBM Business Services Inc. (IBS) is seeking for Multi-lingual Professionals particularly with proficiency in any of the following languages:

German (ML-G)
Dutch (ML-D)
Swiss (ML-S)
Norwegian (ML-N)
Italian (ML-I)
French (ML-F)
Spanish (ML-S)

Essential:
- High level of oral and written communication skills.
- Excellent administration and organizational skills.

Prefered:
- With skills and experience in at least one of the following areas: Information Technology, Human Resources, Finance & Accounting, and Customer Service.
- Experience in working in a shared services environment.

IBM



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ON DEMAND BUSINESS

IBS is a wholly owned subsidiary of IBM Philippines and is heading the market in Business Transformation Outsourcing (BTO) Services, particularly in the areas of Human Resources and Employee Services, Customer Care Services, IT Services and Finance and Administration Services.

IBM is leading the on demand era. If you want to work in an organization that responds with flexibility and speed to any customer demand or market opportunity, look no further.

Interested candidates are requested to send their application letters together with their updated resumes to:

[illegible]

Please indicate position codes at the subject line of the email.

German Technical Cooperation Cambodia gtz
Support to the Health Sector Reform

JOB VACANCY - CAMBODIA
QUALITY ASSURANCE ADVISOR

The GTZ Programme Support to the Health Sector Reform (SHSR) in Cambodia provides technical assistance to the Ministry of Health within the framework of the Government's Health Sector Strategic Plan, with special focus on quality management and social health insurance.

In line with its current thrusts, SHSR is seeking an **experienced and qualified professional, from the South-East Asian Region,** to assist the newly established Quality Assurance Office under the Ministry of Health in catalysing the attainment of the intended outcomes for Quality Improvement and promote a policy environment for quality of health care in Cambodia.

Overall objective:
To assist the MOH in developing and successfully implementing a plan of activities in support of the strategies for Quality Improvement in the National Health Sector Strategic Plan for 2005-2007.

Responsibility:
Under the supervision of the SHSR Programme Coordinator, be responsible for the implementation of the Quality Improvement component of the Programme and other identified priority QA activities. This will include the following activities:
- Support the MoH in developing its central capacity by facilitating the institutionalisation of a structure to address agreed functions related to quality assurance;
- Provide technical assistance in the development of a policy and regulatory framework for quality assurance;
- Support the development of standards and a monitoring system to measure quality of services at Health Centres and Hospitals;
- Assist in the development and test a national licensing and accreditation system for public and private health facilities

Required qualifications and experience:
- Degree in Medicine, preferably with a Masters in Public Health
- Certification in Quality Assurance, MSc in Quality Assurance is an asset
- Proven experience in the implementation of Quality Management initiatives
- At least 5 years working experience on Quality Assurance in a health agency/ministry in a developing country

Skills and competencies:
- Effective in networking and liasing activities
- Excellent communication and interpersonal skills
- Demonstrated writing skills
- Ability to work in a team

Applicants must be at least 30 years of age, preferably with an experience working in an international organisation; must be fluent in English and possess good analytical and problem solving skills.

Please email SHSR Cambodia for a full job description and application form: gtzadmin@online.com.kh
The vacancy is a contract position for 20 months with a possibility for extension, offering salary and other benefits as per GTZ Cambodia regulations.

Closing date: Friday, 10th June 2005

Women are encouraged to apply
Only short-listed candidates will be contacted

ACCOUNTANTS
HUMAN RESOURCE HEAD
CIVIL ENGINEER/PROJECT MANAGER For Low-Cost Housing (35-40 y/o)
Submit/mail your resumé at Room 403, 4th floor, ACL Suites, #72 13th Ave. Cubao, QC or email to dinah@ppros.com.ph

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ACCOUNTANTS

Submit resumé via email to dinah@ppros.com.ph or to CCI c/o PPrOS Unit 10G 10th flr., Strata 100 Bldg. Emerald Ave., Ortigas Center, Pasig City, 2 p.m. to 6 p.m.

INQUIRER

JOB Market

SUNDAY, MAY 29, 2005
Philippine Copyright 1995
JOB Market
www.jobmarketonline.com

JOB*Market* is exclusively for job advertisements.
This special section comes FREE with your copy of the
PHILIPPINE DAILY
INQUIRER
published every Sunday and distributed in key cities
RATES (E-VAT exclusive)
P230 per column centimeter every Sunday
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for reservations / cancellations / corrections
Thursday 12:00 noon

JOBMARKET - Second of two sections

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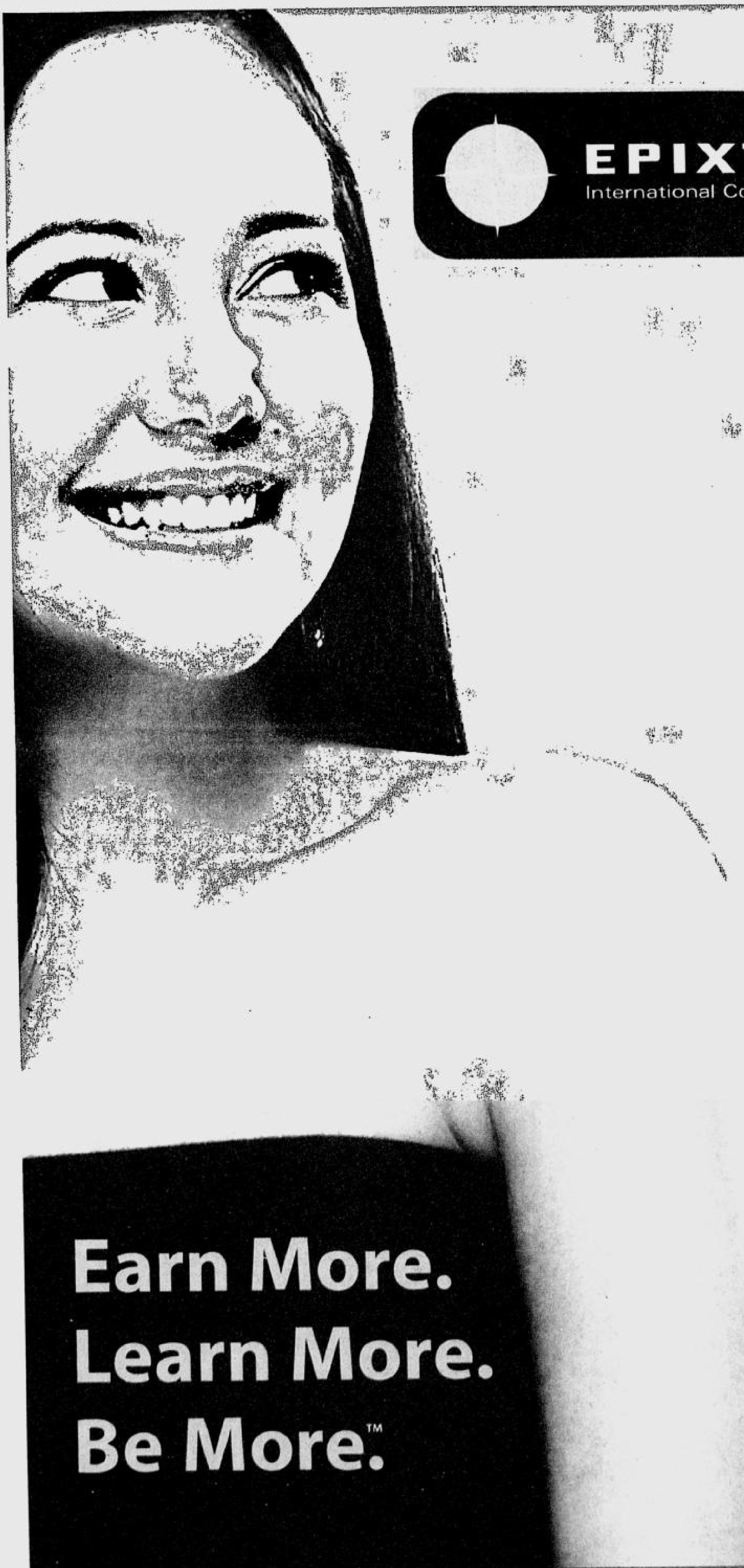

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Sarah Meier

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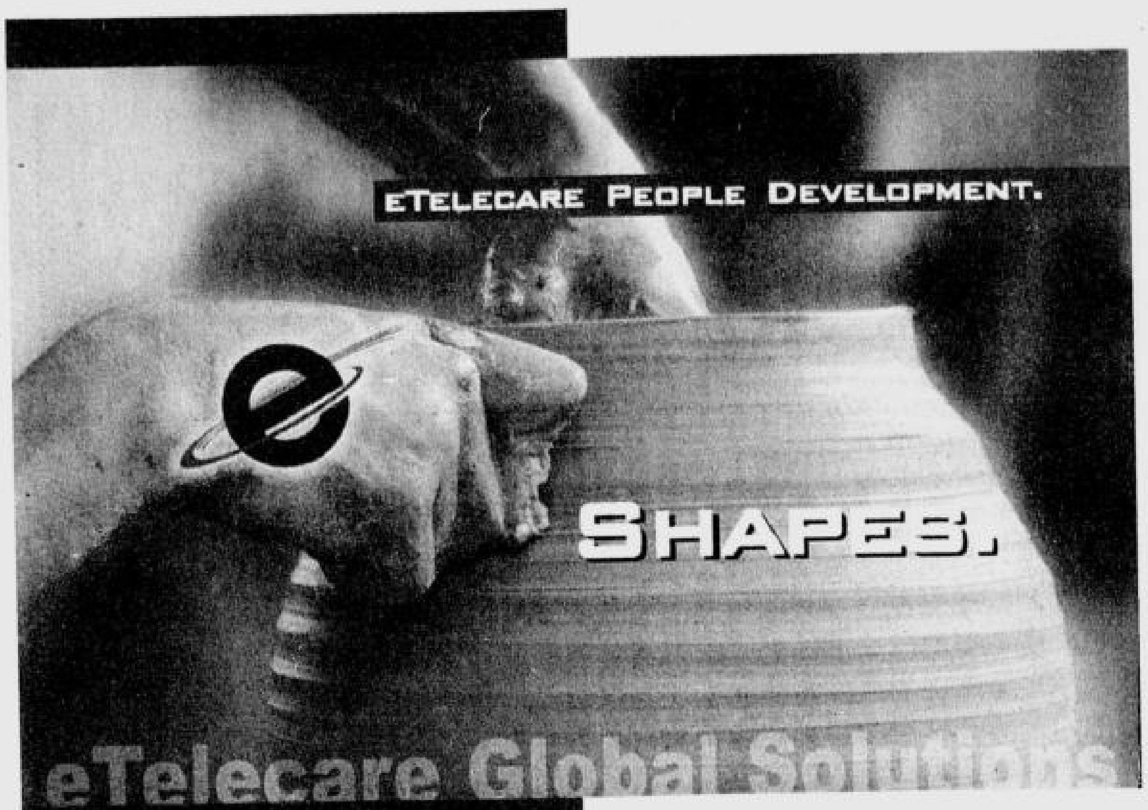
Now Accepting Applicants for our Clark Facility

Interested applicants may forward their applications to bemore@epixtar.com or drop by
Mon-Fri between 10am-6pm at Epixtar house, 5 Eastwood Avenue, Eastwood City CyberPark, Bagumbayan, Quezon City
Requirements: **Willing to work in Eastwood/Clark • Resident of the Philippines • Written & Spoken English Skills**
Computer Literacy • Knowledge of U.S. Culture & Geography Preferred • Call Center Experience Preferred
Inquiries: **857-8100** or visit online at
www.callcentercareer.com
www.epixtar.com

MANAGERIAL/TECHNICAL



ORDINARY CLAY, IN THE HANDS OF A SKILLFUL ARTIST, TURNS INTO A PIECE OF ART.

Like a true artist, eTelecare molds its people to be industry leaders. We leave no stone unturned:

- World-leading behavioral programs like Covey's 7 Habits of Highly Effective People, DDI's Interaction Management, Project Management, Problem Solving and Decision Making, which are typically given by other companies to managers only, are made available to every employee at eTelecare.
- More than 100 people are dedicated to look after the training and career development of each employee. Compared with industry standards, we have twice as many people coaching, mentoring and providing support to our front liners.
- Over P130 million have been spent in producing training programs tailor-fit to the individual's level of competence and character. That amount is enough to put up a building, but eTelecare chose to invest it in people development.

Even global experts like neoIT, the leading offshore advisory and management firm and CMP's Managing Offshore, the monthly newsletter for global-sourcing managers, recognized eTelecare's People Development program. In fact, eTelecare is the only call center with presence in the Philippines that was honored as one of The Offshore 100's Top 10 Leaders in Human Capital Development.

The facts show, the experts agree, that when you earn the e mark, you earn the privilege to be shaped into a masterpiece.

MANILA CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

OPERATIONS
- Inbound Sales Associate
- Outbound Sales Associate (preferably with sales experience)
- Multilingual Customer Service Associate (French, Japanese, Spanish, Portuguese, German, Thai, Bahasa, etc.)
- Operations Manager

GROWTH AND PLANNING
- Program Implementation Manager

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- Business Analyst

CEBU CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

OPERATIONS
- Quality Assurance Manager

CORPORATE DEVELOPMENT GROUP
- Organizational Development Trainer
- Organizational Development Officer
- Organizational Development Manager

INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY
- Telecoms Specialist
- IT Manager

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Call Center 3:
20/F-22/F CyberOne Bldg
Eastwood City,QC

Cebu Hub
Call Center 4:
5/F-7/F Building (E5B)
Asia Town IT Park
Lahug, Cebu City

Hotlines
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Manila Recruiting (02) 580-6530
Cebu Recruiting (032) 411-9030

PHILIPPINE DAILY INQUIRER
BALANCED NEWS, FEARLESS VIEWS

The country's leading newspaper is looking for:

AUDITOR

Qualifications:
- Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
- At least 3 years auditing experience
- At least 1 year supervisory / management experience
- Knowledge of Gen. Accounting & Auditing Principles & Procedures
- Knowledge of Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing
- Knowledge of Financial Data Analysis, Taxation & Labor Laws
- Analytical Skills, Team Player
- Can promote & implement appropriate process improvements, leadership skills

Responsibilities:
- Performs audit procedure, organizes working papers and communicate reports based on results of audit examinations
- Responsible for assisting in identifying risk, evaluating controls and preparing audit plans/programs

PHOTOGRAPHER

Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably Fine Arts or Journalism
- At least 1 year experience as photographer in Publication or Wire agencies

Responsibilities:
- Responsible for photo coverage in assigned beats

PRE-PRESS SPECIALIST

Qualifications:
- With solid layout and design skills set in a newspaper publishing environment
- Advanced knowledge in Photoshop, Illustrator, Freehand, Corel Draw, Pagemaker and Acrobat
- Understanding in color management systems
- Fluent in both Windows OS and Macintosh environments

SECRETARY

Qualifications:
- College graduate, preferably B.S Secretarial Course
- 1 year experience in related job.
- Knowledge of basic office and e-mail software
- Knowledge of basic computer program
- Typing skills, communication skills, basic writing skills, interpersonal skills, filing skills

RESEARCH ASSISTANT

Qualifications:
- College graduate preferably major in Economics, BS Statistics, BS Math
- 1 year experience as researcher
- Knows how to write; proficient in computer, especially in search technologies, Excel, Corel, Powerpoint, Netscape, and Microsoft Word programs; creative
- Very particular with details; willing to work on field assignments; can work under pressure

Send your application letter and comprehensive resumé or e-mail to:

HR MANAGEMENT SERVICES HEAD
Philippine Daily Inquirer
Chino Roces Avenue (formerly Pasong Tamo)
Corner Yague and Mascardo Streets, Makati City
E-mail: recruitment@inquirer.com.ph

The Transnational Diversified Group(TDG) is a Philippine-based conglomerate of dynamic and forward-looking corporations engaged in widely diverse businesses such as Total Logistics, Transportation, Shipping & Cargo Forwarding, Warehousing & Distribution, Ship Management, Maritime E-Training, Medical Services, Travel & Tours, Airline GSA, Aviation Services, Pre-Need Plans, Securities & Investments, Real Estate Development, IT & Business Process Outsourcing Services, E-Business Solutions, and related businesses.

We are looking for highly-motivated and top-caliber individuals to join our expanding organization.

HUMAN RESOURCES MANAGERS

- Candidate must be a graduate of Psychology, Behavioral Science, Industrial Engineering or any 4-year Business-or HR-related course
- With at least five (5) years relevant work experience in recruitment, labor relations, performance rewards and remuneration, benefits administration, HR systems and employee development
- Contact center or BPO experience an advantage
- Excellent leadership and people skills
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications

HUMAN RESOURCES ASSISTANTS

- Candidate must be a graduate of Psychology, Human Resource Management or any HR-related course
- Preferably with at least 6 months relevant work experience
- Must have knowledge of recruitment, compensation and benefits administration, training, and labor laws
- Proficient in verbal and written communication
- Must be organized, systematic, can work with minimum supervision, and a good team player
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- 22-27 years old

PARALEGAL

- Candidate must be a Law graduate
- Must have knowledge of relevant court and other government office procedures
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must be organized, systematic, and can work with minimum supervision
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Male, 25–30 years old

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

- Candidate must be a graduate of Marketing, Management or any business-related course
- Logistics or travel industry experience and advantage
- Must have excellent people and customer service skills
- Must be dynamic, creative and a good team player
- Highly proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must know how to drive and has a driver's license
- Must have working knowledge of MS applications
- 22-30 years old

WAREHOUSEMAN

- At least college level
- Must have at least one (1) year relevant experience
- Must have average communication skills
- Must have experience in forklift operation
- Male, 24-31 years old

ACCOUNTANTS / ACCOUNTING STAFF

- Candidate must be a CPA (for Accountants) or a graduate of Accounting, Banking & Finance or any related course (for Accounting Staff)
- Must be organized, systematic and can work with minimum supervision
- Must have good people skills and a team player
- Proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

MEDICAL ASSISTANT

- Must be a licensed medical professional (nurse, medical technologist, physical therapist, respiratory therapist and related medical courses)
- Preferably with knowledge in ECG and Treadmill Stress Test operation
- Must have good people and customer service skills
- Proficient in verbal and written communications
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Must be female, 21-27 years old, single
- Fresh graduates are welcome to apply

PROGRAMMERS / TECHNICAL SUPPORT STAFF

- Candidate must be a graduate of Computer Science, Information Technology or equivalent
- Preferably with at least one (1) year relevant work experience but fresh graduates are welcome
- Must have knowledge in data and systems analysis and design
- Must have knowledge in application development
- Must be proficient in .Net programming, Visual Basic, SQL/MNSQL, database management and MS Office applications
- Must have knowledge in networking / TCP/IP and software installation under Windows (all versions) and Linux environments
- Must be proficient in PC hardware and software troubleshooting
- Knowledge in systems administration / PABX an advantage
- Proficient in verbal and written communications

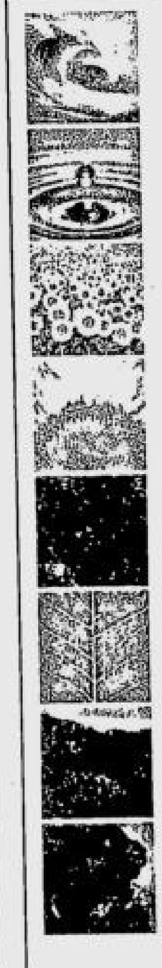
DATA ENCODERS

- Has a bachelor's degree in any college course
- Must have a minimum typing speed of 35 words/minute
- Detail oriented and hard-working
- Must have above average communication skills
- Must have working knowledge of MS Office applications
- Willing to accept shifting schedules and work during Sundays and holidays

Attractive compensation package, developmental opportunities, rewards and recognition programs, insurance and healthcare programs await successful candidates.

Interested applicants are requested to submit their comprehensive resumé with 2 pcs. 2x2 recent ID photos on or before Friday, 10 June 2005 to:

HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
TRANSNATIONAL DIVERSIFIED GROUP, INC.
2/F Mary Bachrach Bldg., cor. 25th & A C Delgado Sts., Port Area, Manila
(Behind the Manila Hotel)
Tel. No. 527-8888 or email us at hrd@tdgworld.com



PSRC
RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL

MOVE TO GREATER HEIGHTS WITH ONE OF THE COUNTRY'S LEADING RESEARCH ORGANIZATION!

A prestigious and leading research agency affiliated with the largest customized research organization in the world invites aggressive and self-motivated individual to fill the following post:

A. STATISTICAL SERVICES DIRECTOR

- Must possess a graduate degree in Statistics/Applied Statistics or graduate degree in a course with heavy emphasis on Statistics such as Operations Research or Econometrics.
- Experience with SAS programming is essential
- Knowledge of various bivariate and multivariate statistical techniques, including factor analysis, analysis of variance, multiple regression, logit, discriminant function analysis, cluster analysis, and conjoint analysis.
- Must be a good communicator and be able to write and present statistical findings about complex subject matter in general business terms.

B. JUNIOR INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY MANAGER

- Primary tasks include Network System Administration under Linux environment, Web-based applications and streamlining electronic data processing software. Other tasks include acting as IT liaison to our vendors and troubleshooting office software.
- A successful applicant must be a graduate of Computer Science, Computer Engineering, Management Information System, Electronics and Communications Engineering or other related courses from top universities with 3-5 years relevant experience.
- Knowledge in: LINUX, E-mail Server, Proxy Server, Web Server, FTP Server, Squid, Firewall, Network Security, Windows 98, XP, Unix/Redhat, programming skills such as Visual Basic, SQL are required.

C. RESEARCH ASSOCIATE

- Not more than 25 years old, graduate of Statistics, Business Economics, Marketing, Psychology, Anthropology, Communications Research or Economics with above-average scholastic standing.
- Familiar with or has basic knowledge of research (design, implementation, data processing, and analysis)
- Adept with data, analytical, excellent writing and communications skills.
- Understands and speaks a provincial dialect (Cebuano, Kapampangan, Ilocano, etc.)

The role of the above individuals will be varied and challenging; within a friendly team environment; and it also offers very good career prospects.

If you are interested, please send your CV with photo, academic credentials or transcript of records to:

Human Resources Department
PHILIPPINE SURVEY & RESEARCH CENTER, INC. – RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL
10th Floor, OMM-Citra Building
San Miguel Avenue, Ortigas, Pasig City

OR

Human Resources Department
PHILIPPINE SURVEY & RESEARCH CENTER, INC. – RESEARCH INTERNATIONAL
PSRC Building, Calbayog cor. Kanlaon Sts.
Highway Hills, Mandaluyong City

E-mail address: research@psrc-ri.com.ph

ALPHA

Alpha Music Corporation, leading OPM exponent, wishes to announce job openings in the following positions:

1. **MEDIA COORDINATOR FOR TV (Marketing Dept.** who will be tasked with booking & accompanying recording artists in TV shows to promote current single/album, working closely with the show's TV coordinator for booking & implementation. Makes the rounds to TV stations regularly to present new artists being promoted & conducts follow-ups on previous bookings made.

2. **PERSONNEL ASSISTANT (Personnel Dept.)** who will primarily tasked with providing support service to the Dept. Head.

3. **AREA COORDINATOR FOR LUZON (Provincial Sales Dept.)**, who will be doing regular store & radio station visits, stock & account supervision & merchandising displays. Having experience in handling and recruiting promo girls is an advantage.

We prefer applicants who possess a high level of interest for recorded music. All applicants must be college graduates of related courses. If you think you can handle the challenge, you may hand your resumé to

ALPHA MUSIC Personnel Dept.
1731 E. Rodriguez Sr. Avenue, Cubao, Quezon City
Tel. No.: 410-0537
E-mail: alphamusic_phils@yahoo.com

visit us at
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English Tutor

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- With pleasing personality

For more inquiries contact Tel. # 850-8712 then look for Ms. Amabelle Tejada.

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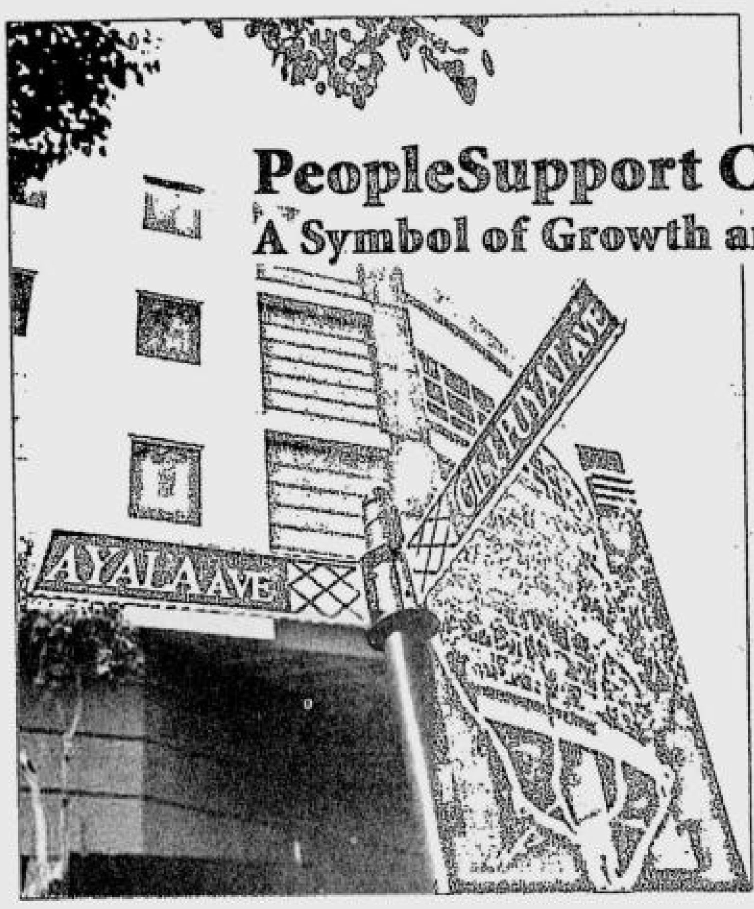

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- 3- 4 yrs. Automobile engineering certificate.
- At least 5 years exp. in vehicle inspection division preferably abroad.
- Candidate must have competent intensive training programs in automobile field.

VEHICLE MASTER TECHNICIAN / TECHNICIANS (50)
- Salary – Dhs 2,000 – 2,500
- Age bracket 30-45 yrs of age.
- Degree in automotive mechanics or any similar course.
- Candidates are required to have a senior level technical classification requiring technical,supervisory and administrative skills.

LOCATION SUPERVISORS (5)
- Salary- Dhs 2,400 – 2,800
- Must have sales and managerial skills
- Must be able to converse and write in English.
- Working exp. in any of the Gulf country.
- Candidates need to have tyre fitting and wheel alignment exp.

Interview schedule will be on May 29- 30, 2005.

Interested applicants may apply with complete credentials (2 sets) at **FIL GULF MANPOWER & GENERAL SERVICES, INC.**
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Fax your RESUME today and get a free assessment

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL PHILIPPINES

As Conservation International Philippines continues to expand its corridors, we invite qualified candidates who will provide valuable contributions to biodiversity conservation in this hotspot.

Interested applicants may submit application & comprehensive resume to:
The Human Resources Manager
Conservation International-Philippines
20 South Lawin, Philam Homes
Quezon City, 1104
or email: hcardenas@conservation.org
(Only short listed candidates will be notified)

SOCIOECONOMICS AND POLICY UNIT LEADER

The Challenge:

This position will direct the work of the Socioeconomics and Policy Unit of the Philippines Program. The Unit will work to affect policy change and apply economic instruments and analysis to positively influence conservation of biodiversity across the Philippine Hotspot. The major objectives of the Unit are to:

Understand regional pressures on biodiversity—specifically on science-based conservation outcomes—and design incentive-based mitigation strategies
Facilitate learning networks that promote successful conservation interventions
Support the creation of a socioeconomic and policy enabling environment that fosters biodiversity conservation
Build internal and external capacity for policy and economic analysis and action to achieve conservation outcomes

The Person:

Advanced degree (minimum M.S., Ph.D. preferred) in Natural Resources or Environmental Economics, Conservation or Natural Resources Policy, or related field
8-10 years relevant experience in the Philippines. 5 or more years in program management.
Thorough understanding of the social and economic context as it relates to biodiversity conservation in the Philippines
Thorough understanding of key legislation and political structures affecting biodiversity conservation in the Philippines
Significant experience conducting economic analysis and/or policy analysis
Familiar with a variety of economic tools, including environmental cost-benefit analysis, environmental non-market valuation of services and ecosystems, bio-economic models of fisheries, and forestry economics.
Ability to engage effectively with decision makers and industry and influence policy decisions
Working familiarity with conservation enterprises, such as ecotourism and agroforestry
Experience leading and participating in strategic planning for conservation of biodiversity
Strong writing skills and experience, particularly policy briefing papers, summaries of lessons learned
Significant fundraising experience, including grant writing and grant management
Strong leadership, program direction and team management skills, including motivating and mentoring team members
Ability to build strategic alliances among diverse groups of stakeholders
Ability to work effectively as a team member as well as a team leader.
Excellent diplomatic and communication skills.
Fluent in English and Tagalong (written and oral).
Familiarity working with a large international organization.

Deadline for submission of applications is June 6, 2005

All positions require excellent communication skills and healthy sense of humor

PROTECTED AREAS SPECIALIST

The Challenge:

This position will oversee CI Philippines' protected areas initiatives by supporting and articulating coherent proposals and strategies for protected areas in the Philippine hotspot, facilitating partnerships with local, government and public organizations, assessment and application of application legislations on protected areas, and facilitating the generation and dissemination of relevant information to promote conservation outcomes as mechanisms and processes for pursuing biodiversity conservation and sustainable development.

The Person:

Advanced degree in Natural Resources Management, Development Management, or related field
At least 5 years experience in PA design and Management, Natural Resource Management, and program management in a supervisory or managerial capacity
Capacity to represent CI and lead relations with local and national NGOs, governmental agencies and decision-makers.
Experience with protected area policies, institutions, and financial mechanisms.
Thorough understanding of the conservation and socio-economic context of conservation action sites.
Demonstrated ability to lead, direct, and manage teams and programs.
Demonstrated ability in building strategic alliances and consensus among diverse stakeholder groups.
Experience in fundraising, including grant writing and grant management.
Ability to perform well under pressure

EASTERN MINDANAO COORDINATOR

The Challenge:

This position will assist in the implementation of model projects and coordination of field programs for conservation outcomes. The position will also coordinate with stakeholders and partners in the implementation of biodiversity initiatives in the corridor. The position will provide administrative support in the development, coordination, monitoring, evaluation and integration of project deliverables.

The Person:

Degree in Natural Resource Management and Development, or related field.
Minimum of 2 years experience in natural resource management /development and project coordination
Familiar with protected areas planning and management.
Ability to represent CI and build relations with regional/national NGOs, and governmental agencies.
Knowledge in protected area policies and institutions.
With significant knowledge of the conservation and socio-economic context of the conservation action site.
Knowledge/experience in fundraising and grant writing and reporting would be advantageous.
Ability to perform well under pressure and to meet deadlines.
Proficient in Microsoft applications.
Fluent in oral and written English; ability to communicate in local EM dialects would be advantageous

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Our Company is currently in need of dynamic and dedicated people to join our team.

ACCOUNT EXECUTIVES

- ☐ Male/Female
- ☐ 28 - 35 years old
- ☐ Graduate of Marketing or any Business course from a reputable college/university
- ☐ Has excellent oral and written communication skills
- ☐ Excellent presentation and negotiation skills
- ☐ Previous sales experience in publication company or advertising sales is an advantage

Qualified applicants are requested to submit their comprehensive resumé with 2x2 photo to:

NEWSBREAK PUBLISHING, INC.
Attention: HRD & ADMINISTRATION HEAD
2D Classica I Condominium, 112 H.V. dela Costa St.,
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Qualifications:

- Female, 25-35 years of age, college graduate
- 2-year experience in various payroll-related functions including employee administration, timekeeping, payroll processing, documentation, filing, and remittance of mandatory deductions
- knows how to audit attendance and payroll results and identify errors and formulate corrrective action
- must be able to develop & implement work plans
- proficient in Microsoft Office
- proficient in any timekeeping and payroll software
- must be flexible with management responsibilities
- must be able to work long hours when required
- must exude a positive attitude
- must be keen on details and definite on decisions
- must possess good communication skills
- can work under pressure

Please email your resumé with photo to:
trabahoclient176@trabaho.com

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VICE PRESIDENT – HUMAN RESOURCES DIVISION

Responsibilities:

- Provide leadership to the human resources division in designing systems and developing policies for organizational effectiveness and employee satisfaction, including compensation and benefit systems, classification structures, recruitment and selection, employee development and training, performance management, policy administration / compliance and employee relations.

Requirements:

- With extensive managerial experience in all facets of Human Resources Management
- Degree in Psychology or Behavioral or any relevant discipline, with MBA an advantage
- Preferably has background on legalities and labor relations
- Must possess proven leadership abilities and excellent interpersonal skills
- Exhibits excellent communication skills, both oral and written
- Must be a resident of Central Luzon, Quezon City or nearby places

Hired candidates may expect competitive compensation packages as well as unlimited opportunities for career and personal development.

Qualified candidates may personally submit or mail their application letter, curriculum vitae, recent 2"x2" photo, transcript of records & other pertinent credentials to:

The HR Manager
LausGroup Corporate Center
Human Resources Management Department
San Fernando-Olongapo Highway
City of San Fernando (P)
Tel: (045) 963-2525 / Telefax (045) 961-5618 / Cellphone (0928) 774-2945
E-mail: hrmd@lausgroup.com.ph

WANTED: FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

SALES SUPERVISOR

- Male or Female, 28-35 years old
- With Bachelor's degree in Marketing or any business related course
- At least 3 years work experience in sales supervision, preferably in a wood based company
- Excellent analytical and communication skills
- A resident of Metro Manila is preferred
- With valid driver's license
- Computer literate

Interested parties may email or personally submit their resumé/biodata with 2x2 picture, NBI clearance, and transcript of academic records to:

BUDGET BUILDERS, INC.
Builders Center, New Orange & Blue Bldg.
(In front of Pasig General Hospital)
Eusebio Avenue, San Miguel, Pasig City
Email Address: bbipasig@mozcom.com
Or you may also text Mobile Phone Number:
0928-2932201
Tel. No. 641-0753/643-9001

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MARKETING ASSISTANT

- Mechanical/Civil Engineering Graduate
- Computer Literate
- Excellent in English communication skills
- Willing to undergo training in Sales/ Marketing
- Not more than 30 years old
- Experience in selling is an advantage

Qualified applicants may send Resumé w/ 1x1 ID to:
HRD - INTERNATIONAL PIPE INDUSTRIES CORPORATION
119 Ortigas Ave., Bo. Ugong, Pasig City

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Join our dynamic team and experience the challenge in the automotive industry. We are looking for highly motivated, competent & success-driven individuals for the following positions:

SALES AND MARKETING MANAGER

- Must have extensive relevant working experience
- Must possess good organization planning, problem solving and interpersonal skills
- Must have excellent communication and presentation skills

SALES CONSULTANTS

- Team player and able to work in a dynamic environment
- Excellent customer service orientation and positive sales/marketing attitude
- Proficient in oral and written communications

SALES ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANTS

- Assertive and can work with minimum supervision
- Above average oral and written communication skills
- Graduate of any four – year course

CASHIER

- Analytical and very keen to details
- Harworking and customer oriented
- Graduate of any four-year course

ACCOUNTING STAFF

- Analytical and very keen to details
- Preferably with relevant working experience
- Graduate of BS Accountancy or any business related course

SERVICE ADVISERS

- Assertive and result-oriented
- Self-propelled and customer service-oriented
- Proficient in oral and written communications
- Graduate of BS Mechanical Engineering or its equivalent

AUTO TECHNICIANS

- Hardworking and customer service-oriented
- Graduate of Automotive Technology or any related course
- Preferably with relevant working experience

Hired candidates may expect competitive compensation package as well as unlimited opportunities for career and personal development.

Interested parties are requested to submit their comprehensive resumes, application letter, photocopy of transcript of records, recent photograph and other pertinent credentials to:

The HR Manager
LausGroup Corporate Center
Human Resources Management Department
San Fernando-Olongapo Highway
City of San Fernando (P)
Telefax (045) 961-5618 / Cellphone (0928) 774-2945
E-mail: hrmd@lausgroup.com.ph

MANAGERIAL/TECHNICAL

PRISM
PRIVATE SECTOR MOBILIZATION FOR FAMILY PLANNING

USAID
FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE

Scope of Work

Policy Specialist

Background:
The PRISM Project supports USAID/Philippines' Strategic Objective 3, *Desired family size and improved health sustainably achieved*. It is the main activity for achieving IR2, *Provision of quality services by private and commercial providers expanded* by focusing on three components: 1) increased workplace support for FP services and referrals, 2) establishment of viable, mass market brands of hormonal contraceptives, and 3) increased business value of FP among private practice providers. PRISM also supports IR 4, *Policy environment and financing for provision of services improved.*
Each component of the PRISM project includes needs for policy interventions that will improve the environment for private sector FP programs and services. The Policy Specialist will be responsible for defining and implementing approaches to meet these project needs in the context of each of the three components.

General Tasks:

1. Review the PRISM technical proposal and other relevant background documentation, including USAID/Philippines strategic plan, documents from other relevant projects in the Philippines (past and present) such as CMS, LEAD for Health and TSAP-FP, health policy analyses and initiatives, the PRISM 1st annual work plan (when completed), DHS reports, etc.
2. Contribute to annual project work planning processes by identifying policy issues for project-supported FP program and service issues and developing strategies and activities to deal with them.
3. Oversee implementation of project activities related to FP policy issues.
4. Collaborate with the PRISM M&E Specialist to monitor and evaluate policy activities.
5. Work with the project's MIS Specialist to develop and maintain a database of policy initiatives, activities, and results.
6. Work with the Financing Specialist to identify health/FP financing policy issues to be included in the project's policy agenda, policy change objectives, and to develop strategies to achieve those objectives.
7. Work with the PRISM Gender Specialist to ensure that gender perspectives are properly incorporated into all policy activities of the project.
8. Work with PRISM technical and management staff to develop approaches and strategies to anticipate, prevent and counteract potential opposition to project activities from social forces such as faith-based groups.
9. Complete other tasks and assignments as deemed appropriate by the Deputy Chief of Party.

Specific Tasks
Cross-Component Tasks

1. Develop policy agenda for PRISM, taking into account agendas of other USAID projects.
2. Conduct policy analyses and policy dialogue in support of the project policy agenda.
3. Work with the Social Mobilization Specialist to develop and implement policy dialogue and social mobilization strategies.
4. Develop and communicate policy issues, analyses and recommendations to the LEAD for Health project with respect to private sector FP programs and services.
5. Meet regularly with LEAD for Health to monitor progress on policy change initiatives, to advise on how to discern between policies that are supportive and obstructive of private sector FP programs and services, and to determine means by which PRISM can support those initiatives.
6. Based on project progress each year and changes in the policy and program environment, update the project's policy agenda as part of each year's stakeholder consultation and work planning process.

Component 1: Workplace
1. Work with the BCC and Social Mobilization Specialists to develop approaches that prepare business owners and the media to discuss, cover and support policies that are supportive of family planning at the broad, social level as well as in the workplace.

Component 2: Market Development
1. Coordinate with the Market Development Director and the major pharmaceutical manufacturers associations to develop an analytic base to support campaigns for policy change to allow brand advertising and ease the regulatory burden of new FP product entry into the market.

Component 3: Private Practice
1. Work with the Private Practice Director and the Social Mobilization and Finance Specialists to encourage PhilHealth, HMOs, and other employee health insurance companies to expand the range of family planning products and services covered.
2. Work with the Private Practice Director to identify and address policy barriers that impede expansion of private provision of family planning services.
3. Work with the Private Practice Director, IMAP, MFPI, and WPFI to identify policy priorities and prepare analyses that lead to allowing trained midwives to provide one-stop-shops for hormonal injections.

Reporting:
The Policy Specialist will report directly to Chemonics' Technical Operations Director or her designee, who will be responsible for monitoring the advisor's overall performance.

Qualifications:
- With at least 5 years experience in policy development processes for family planning and reproductive health
- Preferably with masteral degree in the social sciences, preferably in the field of health sciences
- Excellent in written and oral communications
- Proficient in Word, Excel, Powerpoint

Please email all resumés at jobs@prism.org.ph on or before 8th June 2005

SIEMENS

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Project Implementation Engineer

Responsibilities:
- Project Management and implementation of Power Transmission and Distribution projects (substations and transmission lines) up to 500kV for both turn-key and supply/delivery projects. Tasks include project planning and organizational set-up, project controlling and reporting, execution of project status meeting, change and claim management, risk analysis and management, coordination and interface with the clients and other parties involve;
- Development and preparation of complete package proposal of Substation and Transmission line projects up to 500kV including supply/delivery and turn-key projects. Tasks include detail planning of the proposed project, analysis of the customer requirement, risk and change analysis, rough project structuring, obtaining offers from sub-supplier/sub-contractors, cost estimating, coordination of schedule and resource plans, offer evaluation and examination, and Contract management.

Requirements:
- Professional Electrical Engineer of Registered Electrical Engineer;
- At least five (5) years of working experience in project management, electrical design and construction;
- Must have working knowledge in the use of MS Office and Project software;
- Must have good communication skills;
- Willing to be assigned anywhere in the Philippines or abroad

For more information, please visit our website at
http://www.siemens.com ph or send your resume to us at:

The Human Resources Department
Siemens, Inc.
16th Floor Salcedo Towers 169 HV dela Costa Street
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Email: career@siemens.com.ph

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ASSISTANT GENERAL MANAGER
- College Graduate with above average academic credentials preferably with MA units.
- At least three (3) years experience in marketing and operations management
- Managerial experience in an immigration consulting firm an advantage
- With excellent oral and written communication skills
(Salary commensurate to qualification)

EXECUTIVE ASSISTANT
- Female, at least 25 years old
- A graduate of a 4-year course preferably major in business or accountancy
- With above average academic credentials
- Preferably with at least one (1) year administrative or secretarial experience
- Excellent in oral and written English communication
- Proficient in MS Office and internet work

ENGLISH TEACHERS
- College Graduate
- Must have at least two (2) years teaching experience with a working knowledge in Curriculum Development.
- Excellent in oral and written English Communication
- American or British English Accent is a plus
- Willing to travel occasionally to different provinces and cities
- Proficient in MS Office

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Box No. 155
c/o Philippine Daily Inquirer
G/F Atrium Bldg., Makati Avenue cor.
Paseo de Roxas, Makati City

Philippine TIPS
TUBERCULOSIS INITIATIVES FOR THE PRIVATE SECTOR

Philippine Tuberculosis Initiatives for the Private Sector (Philippine TIPS), a project funded by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID) under USAID Contract Number 492-C-00-02-00031 and implemented by a consortium led by Chemonics International Inc., is in need of an expert to fill in the position described below:

Demand Generation Specialist (1)

Qualification Requirements:

- Minimum of five years' experience in progressively responsible position related to demand generation/market development, community mobilization, and/or marketing communications.
- Proven track record in successful development and implementation of innovative promotions, marketing communications, and community mobilization programs.
- Experience working with or for a health service facility, such as clinic, hospital or networks of these facilities. Related experience in the service sector preferred.
- College degree in areas relevant to the work above (sociology, psychology, marketing, communication, etc.) required. Masteral units/degree in related area/s preferred.
- Team player with leadership skills, experienced in coordinating with officials in the public and private sectors.
- Strong strategic, creative, analytical and problem-solving skills.
- Excellent writing, oral and presentation skills required.
- Experience working on an international donor-funded program preferred.

Qualified applicants are requested to send your expression of interest and resumé to mcaldoza@philtips.com on or before May 31, 2005

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A subsidiary of Citadel Holdings Inc. a private holding company with investments in business providing aviation support services, logistics, and shipping/transport services.

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...not more than 30 years old
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Duties include internal housekeeping and laundry, assisting with cooking and catering, assisting on deck operating deck equipment, general seamanship and boat work. She should be neat and tidy, be prepared work extended hours at times in line with the vessels schedule and the Owners arrangement. Must be free to travel for extended periods. The applicants should have a good communication skills in English.

Application: "Crew member"
Box # KA-034-05 ST
Philippine Daily Inquirer
c/o Classified Ads Division
TM Kalaw St., Ermita, Manila

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Canon

FOR IMMEDIATE HIRING

Japanese Language In-house Instructors
- Conduct Basic Japanese Language Classes for company employees
- Assist the General Administration with tasks such as handling Japanese telephone communications and occasional interpretation / translation
- College Graduate
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- Have good communication and presentation skills

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The work primarily involves the implementation of CARE Philippines' Community-based Disaster Reduction Project in Dingalan, Aurora under the Disaster Management (DM) Program. S/he will be part of the Field Office Team for Dingalan and will be based in the project area. S/he will take part in conducting community training activities and in coordinating with local partners; assist in documenting best practices; and perform office administration-related functions.

Applicants should have at least a bachelor's degree and 2 years relevant experience in social development, preferably in the area of disaster management. S/he must possess good analytical skills, the appropriate values consistent with social development work, good communication and interpersonal skills, and preferably be computer literate. Email **recruitment@care.org.ph** for full details of the job description, qualifications and application process. The salary for this item will be P12,000. Submit resumé by June 13, 2005 to: The DM Program Officer, CARE Philippines, 3rd Flr., Luisa 2 Bldg., 107 Maginhawa St., Teachers Village East, Quezon City. Tel. Nos. 926-8246 / 926-8256.

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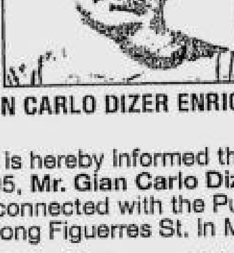

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10 AM to 8 PM

SEMINAR SCHEDULE

June 5, 2005 (Sunday)

Session	Time	Topic	Speaker
Session 1	11AM TO 11:50 AM	CALL CENTER INDUSTRY OVERVIEW & COMMUNICATION SKILLS TRAINING	Mr. George Briñas and Ms. Jet Reynes, Call Center Academy
Session 2	1PM to 1:50PM	PERSONALITY DEVELOPMENT	Ms. Arlene Mogar, Powerspeak
Session 3	3PM TO 3:50PM	ACQUIRING AMERI CAN ACCENT	Dr. Jose Mordeno, President, Speechpower
Session 4	4:30PM TO 5:20PM	SPEAK BETTER ENGLISH	Ms. Christine Santos, Partner, YTC Tutorial and Review Center
Session 5	6PM TO 6:50PM	ENTREPRENEURSHIP AS CAREER ALTERNATIVE	Mr. Mark Frederick H. So, CEO, Businessmaker Academy

WORKSHOPS
Job Interview Workshop (YTC Tutorial and Review Center)
How to Look for Work Overseas Online (Workabroad.ph)
Awareness on Internship Program Abroad (Allies Career)
Awareness on the Exchange Program for Young Professionals (Allies Career)

June 6, 2005 (Monday)

Session	Time	Topic	Speaker
Session 6	11AM TO 11:50 AM	BUSINESS IDEAS WHILE IN-BETWEEN-JOBS	Mr. Mark Frederick H. So, CEO, Businessmaker Academy
Session 7	1PM TO 1:50PM	DISCOVER YOUR PERSONAL POWER	Mr. Joey Reyes, President, Powerspeak
Session 7-A	2PM TO 2:50PM	WINNING RESUMES AND EFFECTIVE JOB INTERVIEWS	Mr. Jessie Rebustillo, Head, Classified Ads Division, Phil. Daily Inquirer
Session 8	3PM TO 3:50PM	ACQUIRING AMERICAN ACCENT	Dr. Jose Mordeno, President, Speechpower
Session 9	4:30PM TO 5:20PM	ENGLISH ENHANCEMENT FOR ALL PURPOSES (Listening, Reading, Writing, Speaking Skills)	Ms. Christine Santos, Partner, YTC Tutorial and Review Center
Session10	6PM TO 6:50PM	INCREASE YOUR JOB SEARCH SUCCESS	Ms. Jane Soco, Marketing Manager, JOBSDB.COM

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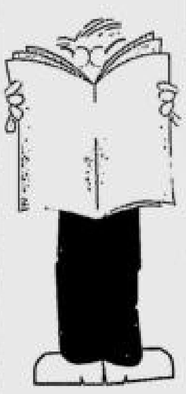

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Eating and the Eternal

By Teresa R. Tunay, OCDS

OFFICE parties yield some of the strangest notions you'll pick up in your life. Like the idea that dogs hate dog-eaters. I heard about that while doing some "social drinking" at an office party, with the drivers, janitors, the guys. They said that when a dog for no apparent reason growls at a passerby, you can be sure that the person eats dog meat. It's because dogs "smell out" dog killers, they said, and dogs don't like them. On several occasions, hence, I found this out to be true. When a dog without any provocation furiously snarls at someone, I ask him "*Kumakain ka ba ng aso?*" and as sure as the sky is blue, he says "Yes."

I don't know who invented "You are what you eat" but he must be a genius. When you eat a lot of pork, you gradually become, well, lazy, like a pig—you eat, sleep, eat, sleep. Or if you're female, you start to resemble Miss Piggy. When all you eat is strawberries and peaches and apricots and other fruits, your skin glows, your breath is sweet like your disposition, and you're all health and sunshine. When you eat bulls' testicles (downed maybe with Red Bull), you soon "perform" or behave like a bull in bed.

Does it follow that when you eat and drink the body and blood of Jesus Christ who is eternal, you also become eternal in due time? Interesting question, no? But that's what today's Gospel tells us, and there's no finer test of that while in this life than at the workplace when you soak up the company of unrelated people for eight hours a day. Observe those who religiously hear noontime Mass and eat the body of Christ: do their behavior, speech, decisions, etc. at least remind you of the Eternal? (*E-mail the author at* teresa_de_manila@yahoo.com.)

REFLECTIONS FOR THE WORKING SOUL

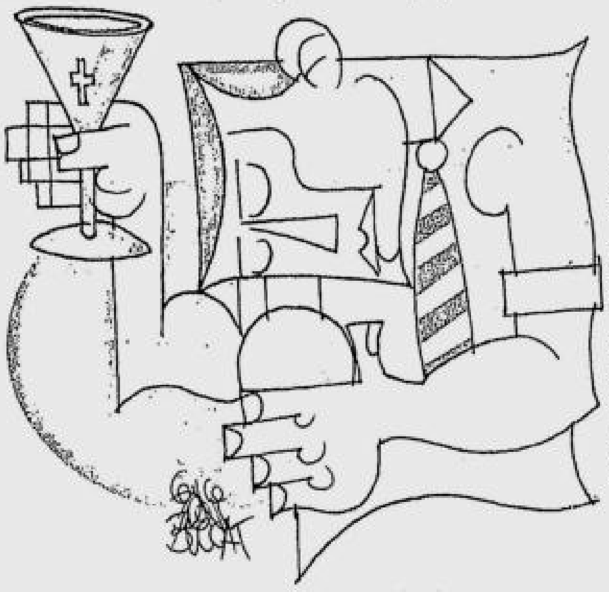

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Gospel: John 6: 51-58

Whoever eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him on the last day. For my flesh is true food, and my blood is true drink.

Eucharist and work

By Bishop Precioso D. Cantillas, SDB, DD

ONE of the tasks which keep me busy and occupied during the month of May is celebrating fiestas in several parishes and chapels in my diocese. I have observed how many of our people love to celebrate this age-old religious tradition even to the extent of making great sacrifices such as spending much of the hard-earned money, or even borrowing some amount in order to prepare food and drinks and other costly items to make the fiesta more joyful and memorable. While celebrating the Eucharist, which is the central activity of the fiesta, I try to make the faithful realize what I believe is the real reason for celebrating the fiesta.

It is the deepest desire and longing of everyone to be happy forever and be satisfied completely with everything one's whole being desires. The fiesta and other celebrations we work so hard to prepare for and enjoy serves only as a momentary satisfaction of our needs and desires. They, however, remind us of our real and deepest need for the "true food and drink"—the Body and Blood of Jesus, the Eucharist, which gives us eternal life. We work and toil so hard in our respective jobs, professions or businesses, apparently to make ourselves and our loved ones happy. But the truth is, deep within our hearts we hunger and thirst for the God who is our Creator and to be united with our Loving Father in heaven.

Our awareness of our deepest need for God and our acceptance of His invitation to "eat His body and drink His blood" will bring us to a meaningful participation in the Eucharist. It is here where we offer our works and our efforts in doing them well; thus we experience the greatest satisfaction of our needs. (*E-mail the author at* mfvg@skyinet.net.)

Breadwinner agonizes over decision to go abroad

From page 10★★

your current employer is promoting you to a supervisory position although the increase in pay is still much lower than what you will get from this overseas job.

You are in a values conflict situation, which requires resolution on your part because you need to make a decision about the two options you are faced with. You need to clarify what is important to you and to prioritize them. As I glean from your letter, there are several things that are important to you. The following, to my mind, are your values:

- adequate financial resources for self and family
- financial security
- close physical proximity to your family and being with them
- your parents' peace of mind
- career advancement (promotion to higher levels of responsibility)
- adventure that comes from working in a foreign country
- prestige and status from working in a foreign country
- harmonious relationship, friendship and being accepted by people you work with

You may also have other values that I cannot glean from your letter.

I suggest that you do the following to help you make the right decision:

1. Pray to God to send His Holy Spirit to guide you in discerning your priorities and in ranking these priorities.

2. If you have eight values, put rank of number one to your most important value. Your number one value is supposed to be non-negotiable. Your number one value is what you are willing to give up your life for, just as faith in and love for God made martyrs embrace persecution and death, and love for country made a hero give up his or her life. Your number two is the next important value, with a higher ranking than the number three. Do the ranking until you are satisfied with the way you have ordered your values.

In your case, adequate financial resources and having financial security seem to be very important. But are these more important than your parents' peace of mind, their health and well-being? Medical doctors will tell you that stress coming from worry and anxiety may aggravate a diabetic condition.

3. Write down the two choices you are now facing, e.g., accept supervisory position in current company and accept job offer of a technical position in Japan. Then put the values with their ranks under each category. In ranking your values, listen to God as He speaks to your heart. As an example:

Option 1: Supervisor in current company	vs	Option 2: Work in Japan in a technical job	
Your Ranking	Value	Your Ranking	Value
Rank 1	Your parents' peace of mind, their health and well-being	Rank 2	Adequate financial resources for self and family
Rank 4	Close physical proximity to family	Rank 3	Financial security
Rank 5	Career advancement	Rank 6	Prestige and status from working in a foreign country
Rank 7	Harmonious relationship, friendship and acceptance by fellow workers	Rank 8	Adventure that comes from being alone working in a foreign country

BREADWINNER/P.9★★

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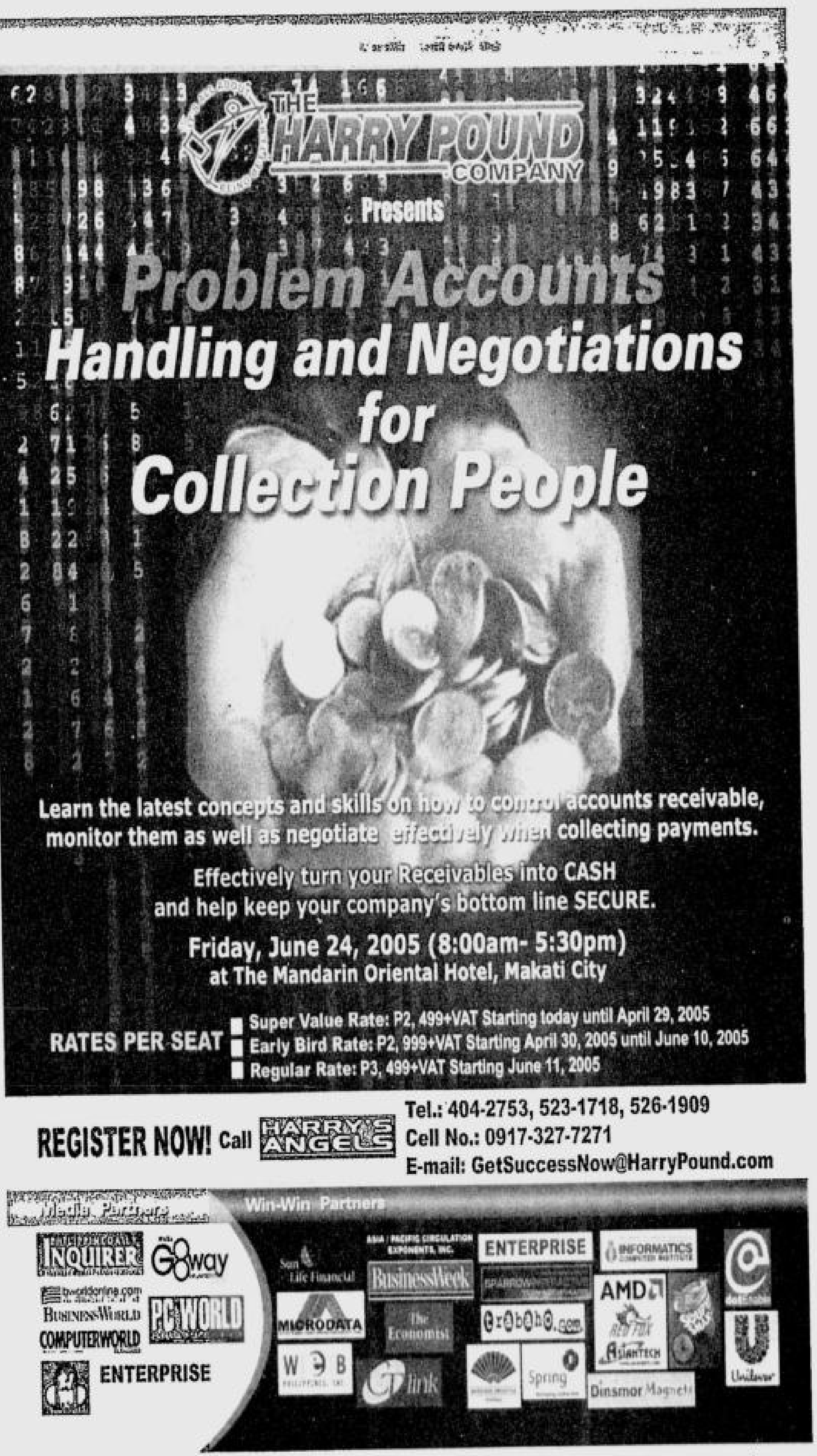
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Link the present to the future through 'presencing'

By **Ime Morales Aznar**
Contributor

(Conclusion)

TO BRING a possibility into reality, leaders must link the present with the future that they are sensing (presencing), or the future that wants to emerge. Dr. Scharmer outlines this creative process in three steps: the open mind, the open heart, and the open will.

Open mind

"Change initiatives fail because leaders are unable to see the reality," Dr. Scharmer reveals. An open mind is related to a person's power to see. People have to learn to see with fresh eyes, to suspend judgment, and to "observe, observe, observe." This is the very opposite of downloading. It is opening up and immersing oneself in the context of one's experience.

Francesco Varela, one of the leading cognition scientists, told Dr. Scharmer about an experiment with newborn kittens. The newborn cats, blind at birth, were bundled in pairs of two, putting one kitten on top of the other. The top cats and the bottom cats were doing the same movement in space, but only the bottom cats were doing the legwork, the upper cats were getting the free ride. The result: only the lower cats learned how to see, the upper cats remained blind.

Perception, therefore, is an experience. "It is an activity where you have to perform, where the whole organism must activate its senses and go out into the world," Scharmer explains. He further ventures to say that "the way many organizations are organized, they are like the upper cats; Others tell them what the reality is, then they implement it."

But if a person or an organization truly wants to create innovations, to make new things, they have to use their own senses. Scharmer believes that for change initiatives to be effective, individuals and organizations must "go out there themselves, get out of their bubble, and move out into the context that is relevant."

Open heart

According to Scharmer, we can operate from the emerging future, by accessing a different source of intelligence—what was earlier referred to as the intelligence of the open heart. To do this, people must retreat and reflect, or go to an "inner place of stillness, then listen and make sense of it."

Scharmer recommends that as we do this, there are two important questions that we must ask ourselves. The "two root questions of creativity" are: Who is my Self? And What is my Work? The Self, with a capital S, is not the "current ego, but a person's highest future possibility." Work, with a capital W, is not the "current job, but a person's real calling or higher purpose." Dr. Scharmer observed that "the people who are highly creative in their lives were not born different; the only difference between people who are creative and those who are not is that creative people create a place in their everyday lives that allows them to link up with these two root questions."

"Majority of the most creative people that I interviewed actually have a practice—meditation, going out into nature, creating a place of silence, prayer," Dr. Scharmer reveals. When people connect with their inner place, they are able to perform effectively throughout the day, amidst all the clutter of everyday life. People have to deal with stressful events, one way or the other. Scharmer explains, "We can actually control some of these, but not all; But what we can control is the inner place from where we operate when we're responding to the chaos."

The open will

When we have learned to see, and have learned to access an inner source of knowing, ideas will come next. As they come, it is important to "act in an instant, or bring them into action very quickly." Dr. Scharmer calls this "prototyping," or "building a landing strip for the future." He advises people and organizations to "start doing something before your head figures it out."

SCHARMER

By accessing this "intelligence of the hands," Scharmer says that we learn to do something, even if we fail. We can learn more effectively by doing, and when we get feedback about our work. He advises people to actually "do something in order to fail, and then you iterate, iterate, iterate."

The important thing is to just build this landing strip, then help will come. It's all about believing, taking a risk, then going boldly into an unknown territory. "Once you make a commitment, or develop an intention, then and only then will the doors open and the right people will begin to show up," he says emphatically. According to Dr. Scharmer, this source of help is available to us much more than we usually think.

To help execute powerful changes in the world, individuals and organizations are urged to "create living microcosms of the future, in certain areas where we can prototype the future that we want to have." Once these places are there, more positive things can be built around them. This is society's great task.

As individuals, we can begin by actually doing our work. Dr. Scharmer believes that people should connect what they do in their jobs or everyday work (work with a small w), with their real Work (with the big W). "Do what you love and love what you do," he says, "it's not always easy, but it's a journey."

(*Send feedback to* blubitel@yahoo.com)

Breadwinner agonizes

... From page 8★★

The sample analysis above is based on my own ranking and may NOT be yours. It is given to you to guide you in making your own values clarification process.

Looking at the values analysis above, you can see that it is easy to make a choice. The values in Option 1 and those in Option 2 tend to balance each other. So I suggest you make a Values Grid that will enable you to quantify your decision. The illustration of a Values Grid considers what I perceive to be the hierarchy of your values. These may not be your own rankings. It is given only to help you in quantifying your data on which you can make a decision that you are happy with.

Write your two options. In the second column, write your values arranged according to your ranking. Then assign numbers to your hierarchy of values. If you have a total of eight values, assign 8 points to your Rank no. 1 value; 7 points to your Rank no. 2 value; 6 points to your Rank no. 3 value, and so on until you have 1 point for Rank no. 8 value. ***See table below.***

Based on the Values Grid above, to remain in the Philippines and accepting the supervisory position is the better choice. Until you have valid information about the plant in Japan and the technical job offered to you, you will need to defer any consideration of this option. Do not accept hearsay or speculations; get valid data from Filipinos themselves who are working there. Do a research to identify who these Filipinos are.

Perhaps, you may need to reveal to your parents and to your siblings the difficult financial situation you are in and your difficulty in making both ends meet. Budgeting expenses based on your actual take-home pay, keeping to the budget and avoiding unnecessary expenses like those related to cell phone use by you and your siblings, can ease your current financial difficulties. Creative ways of recycling clothes and food can help. As your other siblings graduate from college, they, too, can help, and you will not be as burdened as before. God bless you.

(*Ms Santamaria is the president of Career Systems, Inc., a leading provider of a wide array of career development training programs and consulting services in the Philippines. Send feedback to* carsys@careersystems.com.ph.)

Values Grid

Ranking		Number of Points	**Option 1.** Remain in Philippines and accept supervisory position.	**Option 2.** Accept job offer of a technical job in Japan.
1	Your parents' peace of mind, their health and well-being	8	8	0
2	Adequate financial resources for self and family	7	7	0
3	Financial security	6	0	6
4	Close physical proximity to family	5	5	0
5	Career advancement	4	4	0
6	Harmonious relationship, friendship and acceptance with fellow workers	3	3	0
7	Prestige and status from working in a foreign country	2	0	2
8	Adventure that comes from being alone working in a foreign country	1	0	1
			27	9

MOA SIGNING BETWEEN PDI AND JOHN CLEMENTS CONSULTANTS INC.
Philippine Daily Inquirer president Sandy Prieto-Romualdez and Carol V. Dominguez, president-CEO of John Clements Consultants Inc. sign the memorandum of agreement at the Inquirer building, second floor lobby. John Clements and Inquirer are co-organizing Jobs@D'Mall.VisMin, the biggest jobfair with seminar in Cebu on June 21-24, 2005 at Ayala Center Cebu. The other co-presenters are CEDF-IT, Cebu Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Ayala Center Cebu, ABS-CBN Cebu, and Cebu Daily News. This jobfair is especially meant for IT and IT-related serving job seekers. Also in the photo from left are Inquirer Classified Ads Provincial Manager Nanette Abad, John Clements Marketing Consultant Cyril Dela Rama, Inquirer SVP for Sales and Marketing Rene Reinoso and Inquirer Classified Ads Division Head Jesse Rebustillo.

The key officers of Hotel Rembrandt in their training entitled "The Power of Management in Control", held at Saskia function on April 25, 2005. This is a part of their current thrust of upgrading the standard of service of the hotel. Sitting (front from left) Richie Lagunilla, HRD manager; Conrado Mangente, general manager; Rafael S. Chico, president of Interlink and the main trainor; standing (second row from left) Gweneth Pablo, GSO; Jasmin Lopez, executive secretary; Corina D. Singson, Rooms Division manager; Jun Asuncion, chief accountant; Emmanuel Udtuhan, MIS manager; Nida P. Pira, general cashier; Mr. Jun Feleciano, executive chef; Dr. Minerva S. Mercado Spa consultant; Sherwin C. Saracho, sous chef; Beverly P. Mendoza, HRD asst.; Roger Baclig, F&B supervisor; George Manzanilla, executive sous chef.

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Breadwinner agonizes over decision to go abroad

By Josie O. Santamaria

ASK YOUR CAREER COUNSELOR

I'M 30 years old, female, single and the sole breadwinner of my family. My parents, both in their '70s, are retired from their jobs and are diabetic and need regular maintenance medicine. Their monthly SSS are not even enough for their medicine so I provide for these. I am the eldest of five children, two of whom I am also sending to college and one out-of-school brother who is not serious in his studies. I cannot afford to send him to school when he has not made a decision what to do with his life. My younger sister is happily married and has two children. Although she works as a public school teacher, she cannot afford to give any financial contribution to our family. All the expenses of my family are on my shoulders and this is such a big and heavy burden for me. I've tried to keep this matter from the knowledge of my parents since worry and anxiety might affect their health.

I am an Electrical Engineering graduate from a leading university in Metro Manila. Since graduation I have worked in three semi-conductor companies including the one I've been working with now for the past five years. I am happy with my technical job and have good relationships with my superiors and my peers. But my compensation is not adequate to meet my personal and my family's financial needs. This is the reason why I applied for the position of process engineer in a plant in Tokyo, Japan, last year. I had not heard from the company after the two interviews they conducted here in Manila last year for job applicants for the position until last week when I received a letter from the company giving me a job offer for a technical position. The salary being offered to me is four times what I'm getting now. I was overjoyed but my parents were not. They could not see me live and work away from them and in a foreign country. They are afraid of what might happen to me given the "horror" stories they had heard on radio or read in newspapers about Filipino women being made to work as entertainers cum prostitutes, a few of them brutalized and even killed.

Just a week ago, I was informed by my boss that I was being promoted to supervisor and my salary increase would be equivalent to 75 percent of my current pay. Now I am in a dilemma about the decision I have to make. I'm happy about my promotion and also happy about the job offer in Japan. I also want to stay with my family but I cannot afford to meet our financial requirements given my compensation even as a supervisor. But I have to choose between the two and make a decision soonest.

I don't know what to do now. Please help me.

Ms Conflict

ILLUSTRATION BY DIONISIO BUCCAT

Anyone can tell you that, at 30 years of age, you can do anything you want. However, this is easier said than done because you have to weigh the costs/ benefits of each of your two options. While earning more money is important to you, there are other things, like your parents' wishes and their health and well-being that weigh you down, making it difficult for you to decide.

To decide on these two options requires that you reflect on and clarify what are important in life to you, i.e., your values, and what are your priorities at this point in your life. You are not an ordinary 30-year-old single woman. You took it upon yourself to carry a heavy responsibility, that of being the sole breadwinner of your family, consisting of your parents and three siblings. You had no choice on this matter being single and the eldest in your family and your parents being retired and diabetic, and having no means of their own. I admire you for your selflessness, your love for your family, especially for your parents, and your dedication to their well-being.

You are happy about the job offer from a company in Japan because of the big salary you will get but your parents disapprove of it. Their fear may be valid and you cannot simply shrug it off with a "*bahala na*" or "it won't happen to me" attitude. If they approve of your working in Japan, then you would not experience this kind of conflict. Working in a different country with a different culture and language carries with it major adjustments. You don't know the working environment, the working conditions, and the norms and values of a Japanese company operating in Japan.

Before accepting the job offer from Japan, it is important for you to get valid and accurate information from Filipinos who are working in the plant, about certain unknown factors to be considered in working in a foreign country, such as:

- Nature of work (what exactly are your tasks, outputs expected of you and by when, etc. Are these tasks in line with your career interests, your skills and work experience, your educational background?
- Location of your residence in Japan vis-à-vis plant location, travel time and expenses
- Work environment (environment inside the plant)
- Working conditions (number of work hours/day; schedule of work, meals, rest periods, etc.)
- Visit to the Philippines (i.e., will you be allowed to come home to visit your parents? How often a year? At whose expense? How free are you to do this?)

To add to your dilemma,

BREADWINNER/P.8★★

How do you get a job today?

WORKING WOUNDED

Bob Rosner

DEAR Readers: I get a lot of e-mail from people who've been laid off and describe the journey from being toast of the town to being just toast. The following e-mail is unique because it goes far beyond the complaints that seem to fill up my inbox these days. Read on for a fascinating, and somewhat surprising, take on what it really takes to get a job today.

"Dear WW: I was a senior director, a published author, a Ph.D., a speaker at trade shows and had a $125,000 salary. I'd worked hard and was happy about my accomplishments. Then the bottom fell out and my company downsized. At 40, I was unemployed for the first time.

"After the initial shock, I picked myself up and said, I'll be back on top in no time. Six months went by without a glimmer of a job prospect. With my unemployment insurance and savings gone, I took a $7-an-hour job as a telemarketer selling lawn service. This was a time for action, not self-pity. I took some drastic measures. I removed degrees and certifications from my resume; some companies are more likely to hire someone who is not a threat to upper management. Next, I changed my titles. Okay, I admit this is a little misleading; instead of 'VP of Consulting' it read 'Consulting Manager.' The statements are true, I did manage consultants. This generated some callbacks.

"During the interview I'm always asked, 'Why are you looking for a position that is less that what you did before?' If the person asking is an older person I am very forthright with my response, 'I've been trying to get back into the job market and the jobs that I did before just aren't there. I'm willing to take a step or two back in my career to join the company.'

"I'm also often asked, 'Won't you leave if you get a better job offer?' I respond, 'I consider myself to be very loyal. If something did come my way, I would discuss the situation with my manager and HR to review my options with the company.'

"I believe that it's important in a job interview to not seem too needy or anxious. Take the time to get to know the person who is interviewing you and be relaxed, but serious.

"Finally, I stopped looking for the VP or Division Manager position and settled for a lower 'worker-bee' type job. I just had to forget about getting back to the level I was at and just be happy for a steady paycheck and healthcare coverage again. I still have not found that 'dream job.' However, I am still hopeful and continue to look. Fortunately, I am more marketable as a candidate with the skills that I have learned at my current position. It is important to remember that you shouldn't be afraid to try new things. You may find that you have abilities or aptitudes that you never knew you had."

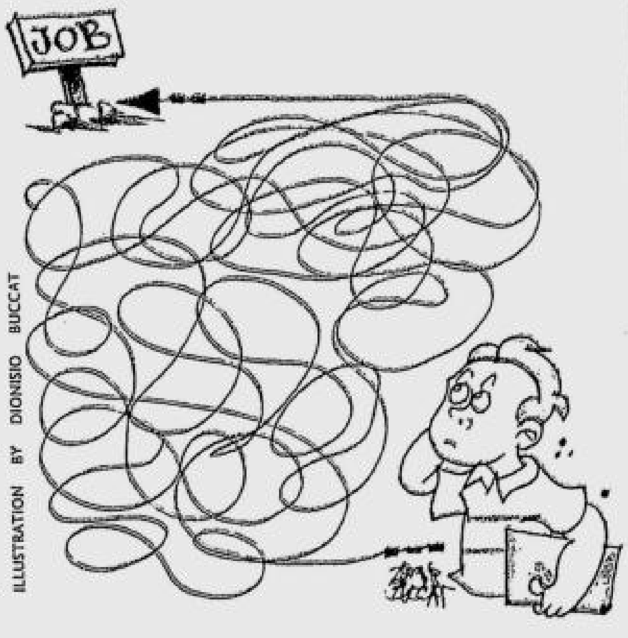
Here are the results from a recent workingwounded.com/ABCnews.com online ballot: What strategy is most effective for getting a job today?

—Upsizing your experiences, 6.2 percent

—Downsizing your experience, 45.1 percent

—Telling it like it is, 48.6 percent

(Mr. Rosner, an internationally syndicated columnist, author and speaker, is based in Seattle, Washington, USA. E-mail him at bob@workingwounded.com.)



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May 29, 2005
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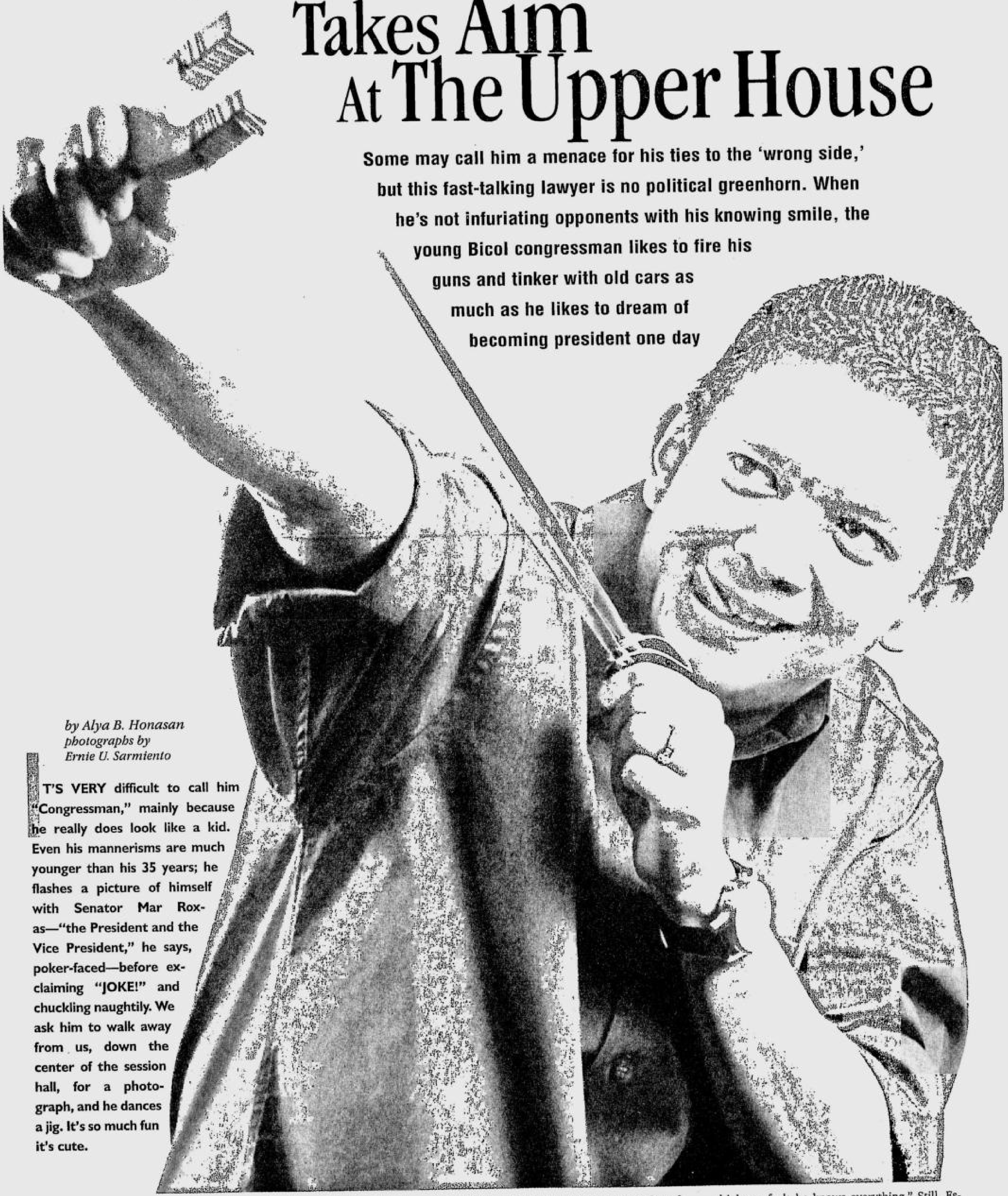
GET TO KNOW SOME REAL PEOPLE

Rep. Francis Escudero

Chiz The Whiz Takes Aim At The Upper House



Some may call him a menace for his ties to the 'wrong side,' but this fast-talking lawyer is no political greenhorn. When he's not infuriating opponents with his knowing smile, the young Bicol congressman likes to fire his guns and tinker with old cars as much as he likes to dream of becoming president one day

by Alya B. Honasan
photographs by
Ernie U. Sarmiento

IT'S VERY difficult to call him "Congressman," mainly because he really does look like a kid. Even his mannerisms are much younger than his 35 years; he flashes a picture of himself with Senator Mar Roxas—"the President and the Vice President," he says, poker-faced—before exclaiming "JOKE!" and chuckling naughtily. We ask him to walk away from us, down the center of the session hall, for a photograph, and he dances a jig. It's so much fun it's cute.

And therein lies the danger of underestimating Francis Joseph "Chiz" Escudero, third-term congressman, House Minority Leader, spokesman of the late Fernando Poe Jr. and, by every reckoning, an astute politician with a bright future ahead of him, simply because you think he's just cute.

"What would you do if you were president?" might seem like a cute question for a schoolboy, but Escudero is no longer a greenhorn, often driving more flustered debate opponents to their wits' end with his uncanny cool. "That effect may be intentional," he says in his office at the Batasang Pambansa, putting out his nth stick of Marlboro Lights, a habit he acquired while campaigning (along with drinking gin) and which he says he'll kick "soon, soon." "Whenever a person loses his cool, he can no longer think straight, and you already have an edge."

So doesn't he ever blow his top? "I do. Basic injustice makes me mad, when you don't get your due from someone who is arrogant, or who thinks or feels he knows everything." Still, Escudero insists, "I know it's only words, and that's as far as it will go. I have a frail body, I'm not about to pick a fight, or I might get the living daylights beaten out of me. I know my limitations." Indeed, at 5'8" and 150 lbs, 10 lbs below his ideal, Escudero must be one of a handful of underweight legislators in the Philippine Congress.

Maybe it's because he apparently works hard.

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Francis

...from page 1

Escudero's day usually starts at 6:30 a.m. with an interview, and ends at 8:30 p.m. after his radio show on DZMM, where he dispenses legal advice in flawless Filipino, a language he seems more at home with than English, in spite of the Master's Degree in International and Comparative Law he earned from the Georgetown University Law Center in Washington D.C. in 1996.

Escudero is on his last term, which ends in 2007. "Three years is too short for a good official, too long for a bad one," he says, talking fast and clear. "Four is ideal. I feel tired—I used to have only five white hairs!—but I still want to find out, at age 35, if this will still be my career path or whether I should move to the private sector. I wouldn't want to reach 50 still hoping to be something in government which I can never be."

"Tot" at age 7

Some ego

He confirms, however, that he is looking ahead. "In 2007, I will run for the Senate just to know. I'm not saying I won't cry or get drunk if I lose, but the upside of it is at least I will know, and I still have time to do something productive." Not that he hasn't been that, says this University of the Philippines 1993 law graduate, honor society officer and erstwhile law teacher who, by his own admission, is often accused of false humility. "I like to think I've done fairly well, and the best evidence I have is that I was elected three times by my constituents. But yes, although I went into politics because I felt I could do what I thought was right, some ego is involved. I'm not good at writing, I'd rather say it than write it. And as they say, if you can't write the book, then just get written about. We all want to live forever, and I want to be remembered for having done something for the country as a whole."

This early, though, the reviews are raves. Escudero was one of the pro-Estrada "bright boys" of the 11th Congress, whose "rapid way of speaking, yet sober tone and soft-eyed demeanor stood out amid the taunting and tiresome spiels mouthed by some of his more senior peers in the House of Representatives or Senate," the INQUIRER's Volt Contreras reported in 2004. There was that famous incident of a woman in the gallery saying, "*Sayang*, you're young, bright and eloquent but you're always on the wrong side." "Slight correction, ma'am," Escudero replied. "I disagree that I'm on the wrong side. I'm just not on your side." Indeed, Escudero was perceived as one of the best things about the FPJ campaign. The late stage director Bibot Amador wrote a column about a lunch where "a surprising number of people expressed a lot of admiration for young opposition congressman Francis 'Chiz' Escudero... If I can sum up the chorus of assent, the opinion givers all saw him as a responsible oppositionist during the Congressional canvassing on TV. He may have been for FPJ but he showed intelligence, calm, reasonableness, and in one so young, projected much of what is considered 'statesmanlike.'"

Even his political polar opposite, Environment Secretary Mike Defensor, has admitted in previous interviews that Escudero is "very competent. He's very eloquent and articulate but as the saying goes, in a fight between good and evil, good will always triumph. It's not so much that I have an advantage over Chiz, just that in my and in many people's perception, I am on the good side."

Nothing plastic

"When he talks, he doesn't waste anybody's time," says Rep. Noynoy Aquino, another legislator whom Escudero considers a friend despite their divergent political backgrounds. "During that whole prelude to Edsa III, he never resorted to rabble-rousing or hysteria. We have never voted on the same side on any issue, but we both have the same goal, and that's the good of the Filipino people." As a friend, Escudero is "true and honest," Aquino says. "There's nothing plastic about him." If people do find fault with him, it may be because "he sometimes jokes a little too much, although he's mellowed down a lot," Aquino says with a laugh. "*Sobrang alaskador* (too much of a wiseacre), so he rubs people the wrong way. They think he's *mayabang* (arrogant). I think most people who have derogatory things to say, though, are just envious. Once, one fellow was so *pikon* he even told Chiz's father about it!"

Family values: Escudero, seated right and front, in glasses, poses with the family for his dad's 1989 campaign calendar

'Bright boy': "I think I've done fairly well," Escudero says of his stint in Congress

Opposites: With wife Christine in Thailand

Not that Dad would have interfered. Salvador "Sonny" Escudero III, Secretary of Agriculture during the Marcos years and now doing consultancy work, is "less influential with me than people would like to believe," Escudero *fils* says. "My dad never encouraged me to join politics. Even when he was in Congress we were prohibited from coming over. He didn't want us to be perceived as trying to influence him. Since I was elected in 1998, he has never been to my office. It's sad, but I appreciate it." They have different management styles, the younger Escudero says. "I'm more hands-on, my dad likes to delegate. I use my gut more."

Finally the candidate

Yet, it was the elder Escudero, actually a veterinarian by training, who introduced his second child to the political life. "In 1984, I was part of the postering brigade in my dad's campaign for assemblyman. In 1987, I handled the youth; in 1992, I handled the headquarters and arranged logistics. In 1995, I handled last minute operations, and in 1998, I was finally the candidate!"

And what of the allegation that both father and son were on "the wrong side"? "I don't think anyone can judge me right now. Winning doesn't necessarily mean you're right. History will be a better judge of that. But that's the beauty of democracy—you believe what you believe, I believe what I believe, and as long as we're not hurting each other, that's fine. Placing a value judgement on a person's beliefs has no place in a democracy. Oh, and my dad was on the right side for the longest time, until Marcos left."

Escudero was born and raised in Manila, the middle of three children, although trips back home to Sorsogon were frequent. His mother Evelina Guevara used to teach at the UP College of Home Economics, and still teaches at OB Montessori. His older brother Philip is a photographer, and younger sister Bernadette is in the food business. He was neither a geek nor a jock—"I didn't get good grades"—but remembers living in a compound with some 13 cousins who christened him "Tot" and made *patintero* a backyard staple. "My problem was, until my third year in high school I was about 4 foot 6," Escudero recalls. "My growth spurt kicked in only in my senior year. I was always the kid who had to squat in front for class picture."

Although his was a closely-knit family,, "We're not good at expressing ourselves," Escudero says. "We're not *malambing* (affectionate). I do regret that I don't remember the last time I said 'I love you' to my mom or dad. We were brought up, maybe unintentionally, to be embarrassed about these things. But that doesn't mean the feeling is not there." Sonny Escudero will run for the seat his son will be vacating in 2007.

Complete opposites

The lack of *lambing*, Escudero laughs, made his then proposal to wife Christine Alfonso a lackluster event. "I hadn't watched all those romantic movies yet." Escudero met the singer and stage actress when she was performing in the Sulu Hotel's Diwata Lounge, and they were together for five years before tying the knot in 1999, with the late FPJ as one of the godfathers. "We're complete opposites," Escudero says of the attraction. "I don't have an artistic bone in my body, while her whole body is a work of art, in and of itself. She sang during my campaign, and that saved me a lot on talent fees," he says with a chuckle. Christine had an ectopic pregnancy a few years back, and working on a family will require some time off, Escudero says. "I like kids. I think I'd make a good dad, given

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FRESH CATCH Edsa Shangri-La's Summer Palace showcases fresh mud crabs for lunch and dinner until May 31. Mud crabs are sought-after and popularly cultured for their firm yet flaky, delicately sweet meat. Summer Palace's Executive Chinese Chef Chan Yiu So prepares prized catches with dried chili or tomato and chicken egg, pan-fried with minced shrimp or steamed with glutinous rice. Summer Palace is located at the Mezzanine Level of Edsa Shangri-La, Manila. For inquiries and reservations, call 633-8888 ext. 2738 or 2739.

For more of This Week, see page 7

HOPING FOR JOSEPH AND MICHELLE

Hi, there! I often read your magazine and I think it's really good. I decided to write to ask if you can also feature the love team of Joseph Bitangcol and Michelle Madrigal. I like them and want to know more about them.Thank you and more power to **SIM**.

noname fila
green_haze90@yahoo.com

"SHAMEFUL THEME"

I just met Ms. Marilou Diaz-Abaya ("From Direk to Ma'am: The Movie Maker Turns Mentor," **SIM**, 22 May 2005) in Cannes the other day when four Philippine movies were presented to the public. She was very accommodating, but sad to say I missed her film "*Bagong Buwan.*" She gave us a little time to interview her while in the middle of her meeting with a group that included Cesar Montano, and unwinding after a whole day's stress.

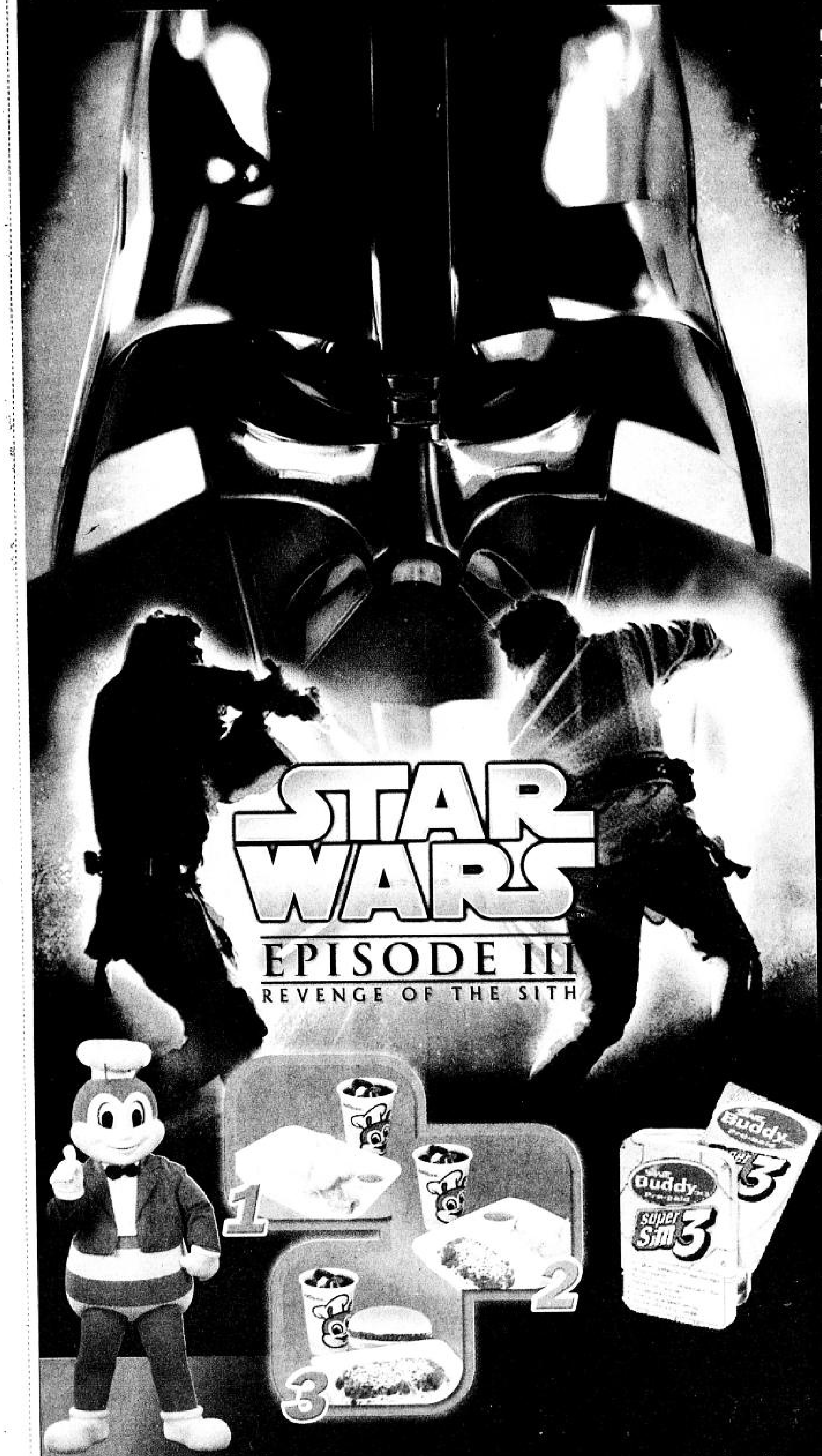
We, Filipino residents of the French Riviera, found the multi-awarded short film of Mes de Guzman titled "*Batang Trapo*" to be very crude and somehow nothing to be proud of. If you call it a film of cultural identity, well, it's a shameful theme for the Filipino community here who have mixed marriages and half bred Pinoy-French children. We won't earn international respect by showing the dirtiest side of Manila with its abused children who have no protection from the government. How can we attract potential tourists to our beautiful country if we show this dirty and miserable side of our street life, which is close to the level of India's poorest of the poor? It's a film perfect for the UNICEF to view, but not for the Cannes Film festival. We wonder what made the jury pass this film to be shown here in Cannes. What was their criteria? Do we need some fund raising for the street children of Manila?

To make the story short, we have to produce films that showcase our beautiful country and our good cultural background using positive story telling, and forget about films filled with misery, pain, violence, non-stop verbal vulgarities etc. We can show our poverty with dignity instead of misery coupled with criminality. Europeans can tolerate sex scenes but not unnecessary violence and child abuse. We actually have a long way to go to learn how to show our culture to the rest of the world through films. Hopefully, Ms Abaya's school will teach the positive way of doing it. Congratulations anyway to the Filipino group who came. We look forward to seeing you next year with better films to show at this international festival.

Lis Manuel
lsmanuel@aol.com

THE FORCE IS WITH SMART

SMART Buddy and Jollibee Present Star Wars Jedi Deals



In 2005, the saga is finally complete. "Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith" open this past May 19th, and has proceeded to smash every box-office record in its path. The highly anticipated Episode III opened to a staggering four-day record of $158.5 million during its launch. This is the culmination of an epic that filmmaker George Lucas first envisioned almost 30 years ago. That vision, as well as the great characters that emerged from it, are onscreen for the sixth and final chapter in the *Star Wars* saga.

Anticipating the final chapter of a one-of-a-kind science-fiction phenomenon, SMART Buddy joins forces with Jollibee to take you to that land of a long time ago, in a galaxy far, far away. Star Wars Jedi Deals won't just give you the versatile SMART Buddy Super SIM 3, but also a yummy meal, and collectible *Star Wars* freebies as well! Just buy a SMART Buddy Super SIM 3 at P150 and get a free value meal at Jollibee. Value meal choices are the one-piece Chickenjoy Meal, a one-piece Chickenjoy, Jolly Spaghetti Meal, or a Yum with Jolly Spaghetti Meal. That's not all. You'll also get a "Star Wars Episode III: Revenge of the Sith" SIM-can cover and holographic sticker or trading card free!

The original Star Wars trilogy broke box-office records worldwide and opened the eyes of millions to the adventures of heroes locked in cosmic battle. From 1977's "A New Hope", to 1980's "The Empire Strikes Back", and "Return of the Jedi" three years later, fans of all ages were hooked on this galaxy-spanning conflict that had characters whom we could identify with. When Lucas decided to film the three "prequels" beginning with "The Phantom Menace" in 1999, even more people became enamored with *Star Wars*. 2002 saw the release of "Attack of the Clones", treating us to groundbreaking advances in digital filmmaking. Now, the final chapter is here. "Revenge of the Sith" tells the tale of how Anakin Skywalker falls and transforms into the menacing figure of Darth Vader.

Star Wars fans on SMART Buddy can bring Episode III with them wherever they may go. Just text STARWARS and send to 291 to see the many picture messages, logos, ringtones, polytones, and screen themes you can download from this universe of Droids, Wookiees, Gungans, Ewoks, and Sith lords. Both old and new SMART subscribers can download to their heart's desire, and you can win limited edition *Star Wars* collectibles, iPod Shuffles, Canon Digital IXUS Cameras, or even a brand new Peugeot 206cc! Witness how Anakin struggles with the dark side of the Force even as Obi-Wan tries to bring him back to the Jedi fold. Feel the Jedi's last stand as the Galactic Empire begins its conquest. Fans worldwide know that there is nothing quite like a *Star Wars* movie, and you can be a part of it! Just text STARWARS to 291 or head over to the nearest Jollibee now!

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The Word

Fr. Ruben J. Villote

The QuestionIs, 'Educate for What?'

It's about time the Filipino Youth of this generation and the next join Gloria Macapagal Arroyo by moving on from the past, facing the next Arroyo years, and giving birth to the next generation of 'truly educated Filipinos'

THE FOLLOWING excerpt was written as the school year opened some time during the Marcos regime. As you will notice, the letter begins to sound less anti-Marcos and more anti-colonial ("an education-of-the-intellect-for-profit-making") as it went on.

You might want to guess whether the author of this Letter to the Editor, as published by the Weekly Graphic during the Marcos reign, could hope for a change in the values education of the Filipino, at least within the Marcos years. Well, Marcos has been dead for 16 years now, while GMA will be around for some more years. Meanwhile, the sinking state of the Filipino's education seems to be at its worst. It's about time the Filipino Youth of this generation and the next, move on from the past, face the Arroyo years, and start giving birth to the next generation of "truly educated Filipinos." (Read the Weekly Graphic letter again.)

* * *

Evolving our own kind of education

(Letter to the Editor published in the Weekly Graphic in the early '70s)

Everybody who goes to school, we presume, wants an education. And the education everybody wants, we also presume, is a "money-making" education. This may sound insulting to our "scholars" and "educators," but let us be honest. Ask any parent who sends a son or daughter to school, or any student who struggles for a diploma. They all have a secret dream. They want to go abroad, if they can, either to study further or work, or both. But their ultimate dream is "to earn a fast buck," and have enough to put up a business, and be as rich as that family who owns a chain of restaurants, apartment houses, cars, racehorses, yachts, diamonds and every imaginable thing money can buy. And so everybody wants to be "intelligent" by going to school. The school—we are made to believe—will educate our intellect, and will make us intelligent, shrewd and smart enough to outsmart and outrace everybody else to the top.

And so, we tell our children to take up economics or business administration or medicine or hotel management—"because there is money in it if you make good." And so, "money" has become the be-all and end-all objective of Western education, and this colonial brand of education seems to be the only "education" we know. It is an "education-of-the-intellect-for-profit-making."

Why don't we Filipinos evolve our own definition of education for a change? Why can't we liberate ourselves from this colonial concept of "profit-making" and "power-grabbing" type of education which for centuries has only been used by the West to exploit and oppress those whom they have "educated"? Why don't we start educating ourselves instead by first educating not only our intellects but also our hearts? This may sound romantic and naive to many of us but it is only because we have long been imprisoned by the culture and value judgments of the West which has taught us that the only education there is, is the education-of-the-intellect-for-profit-making. We have never gotten used to the concept of education-of-the-heart-for-sharing. Colonial education, for example, has taught us that man is like a machine with parts like the eyes, ears, nose and so on, which operate like cogs: the eyes see, the ears hear, the nose smells, and so on. We were never taught, for example, that we can listen not only with our ears but also with our mind and our heart, and that our mind can also see and touch, and our heart can also hear and see. This is very Oriental but Orientals have been civilized long, long before the Europeans and the Americans. It is only when we allowed ourselves to be "developed" and "educated" by the West that we, Filipinos, became as robotized and dehumanized as the West. All we think about now is "how can I get the most out of you, how can I and my family get rich quick, how can I grab that wealth from your family, how can I gimmick you into giving me 1/3 of your life so that I can use and exploit it to grab more money and power?" Thousands of American youths are leaving their families to become monks or hermits precisely because they are sick and tired of their own brand of education. They are called "drop-outs" and "freaks" by their parents. But these youths are reaching for something much more meaningful than power and money, and they cannot find it in their parents. And here we are, Filipinos, worshipping the West for its "education." Is it not about time that we re-think and re-create our own, and share it with the West? ◼

Movers and Shakers

by Avie Gochoco-Perez

Banking On A New Leader In Wai

**Incoming Bangko Sentral governor Amando 'Say' To
is relying on his smarts and long
as a homegrown talent to pull t
out of its present financial ru**

The family man at home with Eula, wife Elma, Mia and Patrick

THERE were just so many incoming calls, his poor cellphone crashed the day media announced that Amando "Say" Tetangco, Jr. would be the next governor of the Bangko Sentral ng Pilipinas. "It was a Monday, noontime," the new appointee recalls. " People were trying to make congratulatory calls. "There was a sharp tone. I had to turn the phone off and turn it back on. It took time before it worked again."

Many observers had written off Say's chances. He had no big lobby groups on his side. His was not as familiar a name as those from private commercial banks on whom some were placing their bets: Xavier Loinaz, O.V. Espiritu, Edgardo B. Espiritu, Peter Favila.

Tetangco is a quiet soldier at the Bangko Sentral. Save for a year's stint at the accounting firm Sycip, Gorres & Velayo after graduating from the Ateneo with a bachelor's degree in Economics, cum laude, he has been in central banking all his professional life. He has been with the BSP for so long, he has worked under five governors.

Despite his boyish looks, Say at 52 is not the youngest to occupy the nation's top banking post. "The youngest was Laya and second was Cuisia," he says. But certainly, his appointment can be seen as the first time due recognition has been given to the ability of a "homegrown" talent.

Say recalls that, as a student, he was "responsible." That meant being the only one in a brood of nine—four boys and five girls—with a study table at home in Apalit, Pampanga. Younger sister Rebecca or "Becs" recalls that her brother read a lot, among them "the English classics, like Robin Hood." He would know instantly if someone had messed with the books on his study table. That table and everything on it was very private property. That early he had shown signs of being a stickler for organization and neatness.

Too many medals

Say reaped so many medals in school that his parents, "Tata" and "Ima," would ask his aunts and uncles to help them pin the medals on him come graduation time. Their parents needed to take breaks from making too many trips up the stage, Becs recalls.

For the first two years of elementary school, Say, as with the rest of his siblings, went to a public school. Tata did not earn much as a civilian employee at Camp Olivas, where he was auditor. He had to stop studying accounting to make way for a brother who wanted to be a doctor.

After all, Tata himself came from a big brood of 12. Still, he finished his accountancy course: He enrolled in correspondence school.

"I believe Say got my father's integrity and intelligence" Becs says. It was also Amando Tetangco Sr. who, early on, molded his son to become someone important. Becs remembers their Tata having big dreams for his son. "'*Itong anak kong ito, mataas ang maaabot,' gaya ni* Magsaysay, (This son of mine will go far, like Magsaysay)' he would say."

President Ramon Magsaysay was Tata's Idol; thus, the nickname for his son. A precocious kid, Say learned how to drive by simply watching how others drove the family's owner-jeep. He was only in Grade Four. Say went to Don Bosco in San Fernando, Pampanga on his third grade while the girls went to St. Scholastica's, also in San Fernando. The high grades Say got constantly made life for his siblings just a wee bit harder.

"Tata expected us to be like Say academically," Becs says. When she failed an entrance test, Tata admonished her, "Read your brother's English classics." Say was always either class valedictorian or salutatorian and missed bagging magna cum laude honors at the Ateneo "by only .02 point, not even by .1 point," says Becs.

The scholar

Say had wanted to be a doctor of medicine or a lawyer but the nine years either course would have entailed and the resulting drain on the family's finances made him choose the "fad" course at that time: Economics.

True to form, he got a scholarship after just one semester at the Ateneo. Say, believing that one had to have more than a college degree to move up in an organization, left for the University of Wisconsin in the United States as a Central Bank scholar. He went for his Masters in Public Policy and Administration with Concentration on Development Economics.

His wife, Elma, about five years his junior, is more adventurous and a bargain hunter. "Very simple," is how Becs describes her. "Elma is both beauty and brains, someone with whom Say can relate
met at the BSP. She u
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Tetangco is a quiet soldier at the Bangko Sentral. Save for a year's stint at the accounting firm Sycip, Gorres & Velayo after graduating from the Ateneo with a bachelor's degree in Economics, cum laude, he has been in central banking all his professional life. He has been with the BSP for so long, he has worked under five governors.

Despite his boyish looks, Say at 52 is not the youngest to occupy the nation's top banking post. "The youngest was Laya and second was Cuisia," he says. But certainly, his appointment can be seen as the first time due recognition has been given to the ability of a "homegrown" talent.

Say recalls that, as a student, he was "responsible." That meant being the only one in a brood of nine—four boys and five girls—with a study table at home in Apalit, Pampanga. Younger sister Rebecca or "Becs" recalls that her brother read a lot, among them "the English classics, like Robin Hood." He would know instantly if someone had messed with the books on his study table. That table and everything on it was very private property. That early he had shown signs of being a stickler for organization and neatness.

Too many medals

Say reaped so many medals in school that his parents, "Tata" and "Ima," would ask his aunts and uncles to help them pin the medals on him come graduation time. Their parents needed to take breaks from making too many trips up the stage, Becs recalls.

For the first two years of elementary school, Say, as with the rest of his siblings, went to a public school. Tata did not earn much as a civilian employee at Camp Olivas, where he was auditor. He had to stop studying accounting to make way for a brother who wanted to be a doctor.

After all, Tata himself came from a big brood of 12. Still, he finished his accountancy course: He enrolled in correspondence school.

"I believe Say got my father's integrity and intelligence" Becs says. It was also Amando Tetangco Sr. who, early on, molded his son to become someone important. Becs remembers their Tata having big dreams for his son. "'*Itong anak kong ito, mataas ang maaabot,' gaya ni* Magsaysay, (This son of mine will go far, like Magsaysay)' he would say."

President Ramon Magsaysay was Tata's Idol; thus, the nickname for his son. A precocious kid, Say learned how to drive by simply watching how others drove the family's owner-jeep. He was only in Grade Four. Say went to Don Bosco in San Fernando, Pampanga on his third grade while the girls went to St. Scholastica's, also in San Fernando. The high grades Say got constantly made life for his siblings just a wee bit harder.

"Tata expected us to be like Say academically," Becs says. When she failed an entrance test, Tata admonished her, "Read your brother's English classics." Say was always either class valedictorian or salutatorian and missed bagging magna cum laude honors at the Ateneo "by only .02 point, not even by .1 point," says Becs.

The scholar

Say had wanted to be a doctor of medicine or a lawyer but the nine years either course would have entailed and the resulting drain on the family's finances made him choose the "fad" course at that time: Economics.

True to form, he got a scholarship after just one semester at the Ateneo. Say, believing that one had to have more than a college degree to move up in an organization, left for the University of Wisconsin in the United States as a Central Bank scholar. He went for his Masters in Public Policy and Administration with Concentration on Development Economics.

His wife, Elma, about five years his junior, is more adventurous and a bargain hunter. "Very simple," is how Becs describes her. "Elma is both beauty and brains, someone with whom Say can relate
met at the BSP. She u
jazz but is no longer
not dance.

Family bonding in
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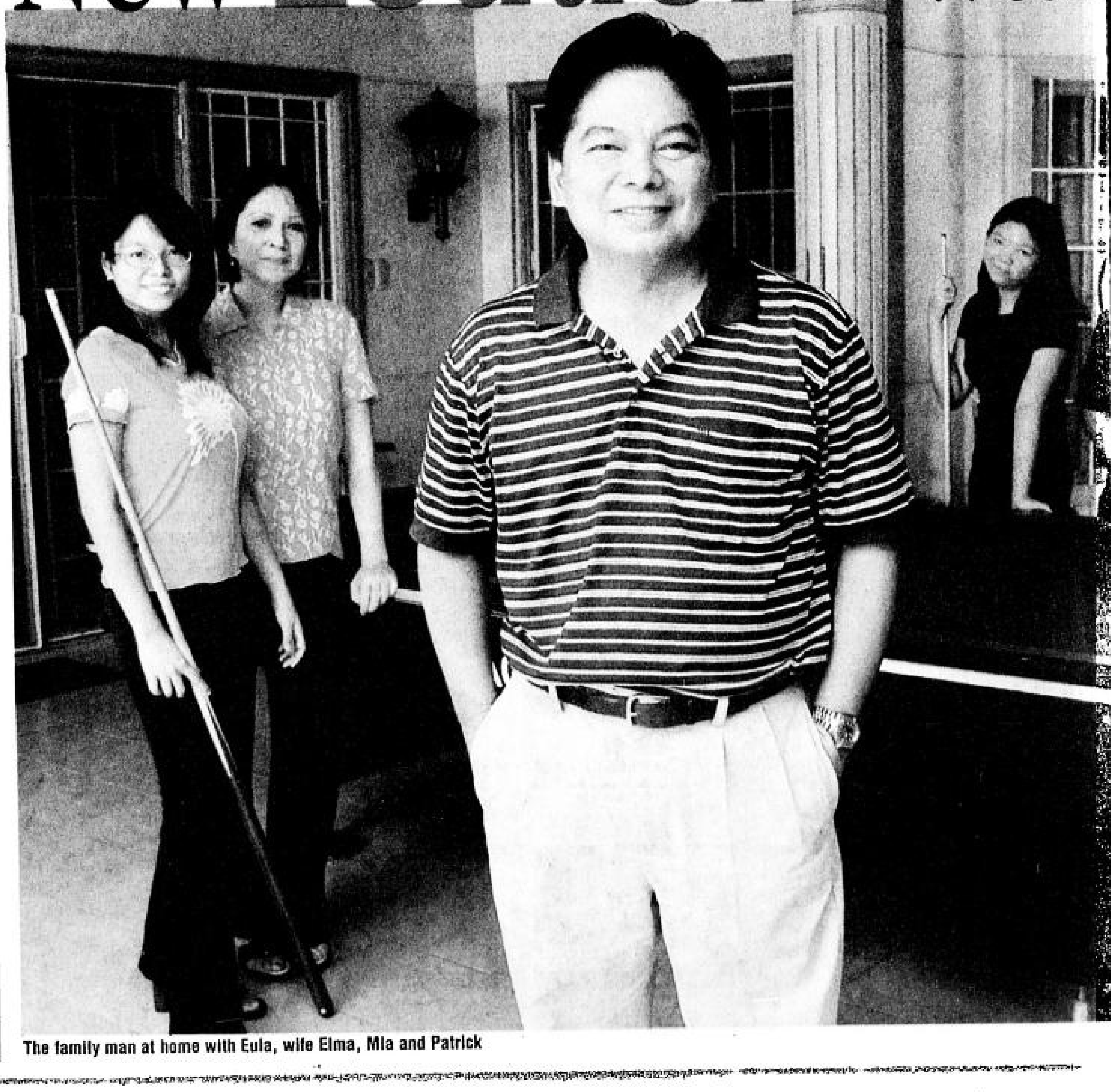
The family man at home with Eula, wife Elma, Mia and Patrick

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," she adds. The couple sed to dance ballet and into it. Why? Say does

Say's household is at its Elma and kids Patrick, a, 14, like to go shop- hey particularly enjoy girls have books all eed new bookshelves!"

times plays badminton billiards with Patrick. quare meter property in ion in Quezon City. He st, where he built the nd wife Elma, he is the out keeping the house eat. "I've even caught n golf trophies," Becs one of the boys in their nade to do any house-

n interest. "About two er visiting Say at home lls Becs. "He was in the eeds."

y riser

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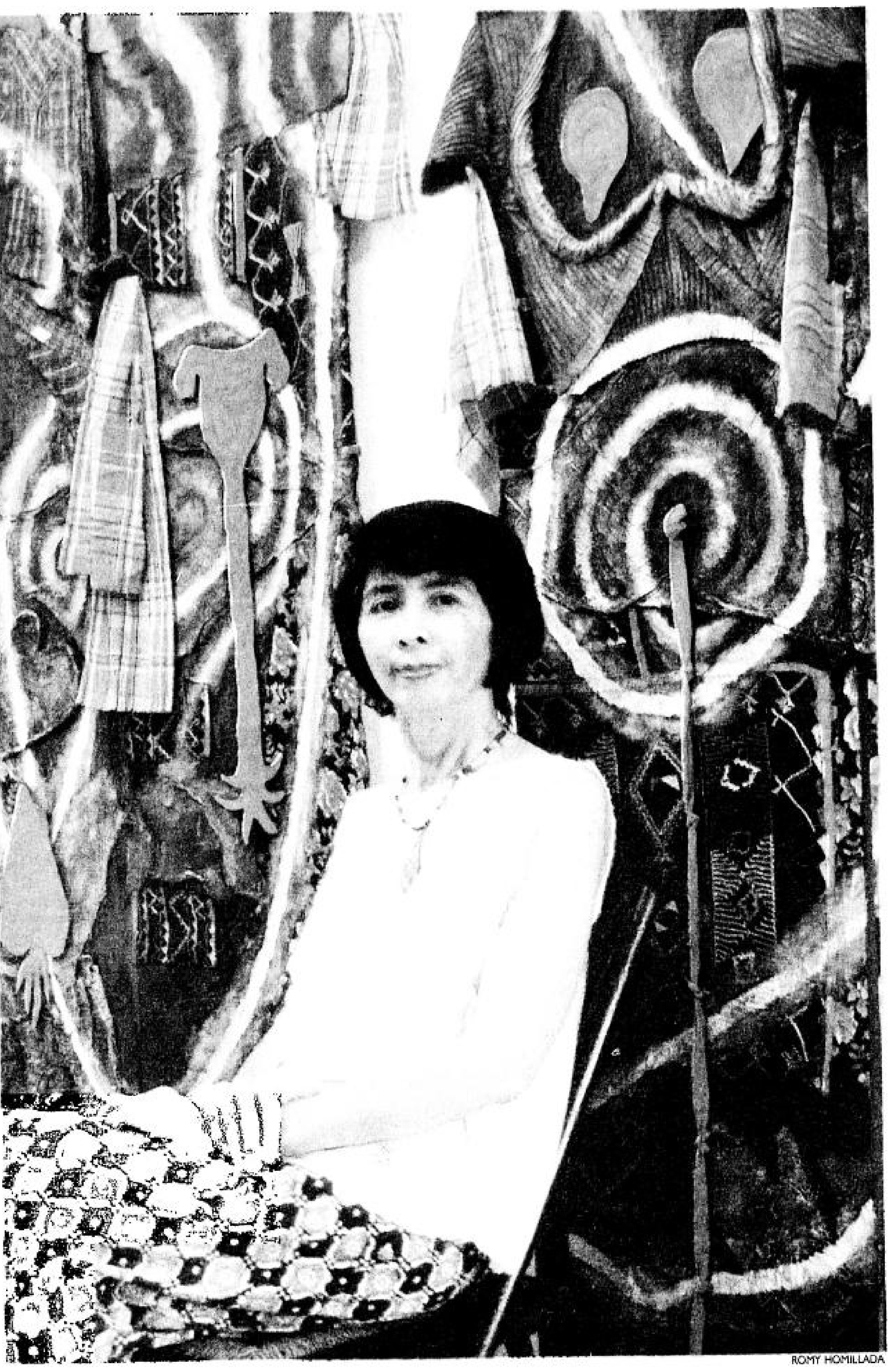

With her work titled *"Magkapatid 1 & 2"*

ROMY HOMILLADA

Artwatch

by Elizabeth Lolarga

She's Leaving Home

The diaspora of Filipinos to distant shores was a social comment that visual artist Imelda Cajipe Endaya used to make on her murals and tapestries. Who would have thought that she would one day include herself in such paintings?

"WHY are you leaving?"

The subtext of the question posed to visual artist Imelda Cajipe Endaya who, for years, has depicted the diaspora of Filipinos in her powerful works, is: "Why the complete turnaround? You, of all people!" Is her move to upstate New York come June 25 a personal follow up to her visual statements on the state of the nation?

The deceptively frail-looking woman, who makes tapestries from *patadyong* material that extend from floor to ceiling, smiled as she answered: "We've been disgusted (about the state of our country) for the last 30 years," she revealed. "But I used to tell people, please don't leave. Why do Filipinos keep on leaving? Whenever I went abroad, I'd get touched because I see that they're there to work, to improve the state of their pockets. Through their remittances our economy floated. I have been hoping that the diaspora would end, but it hasn't."

Her personal circumstances have changed, the artist added. When her father died in 1989, Endaya's US-based mother, Felipa, petitioned her entire family. She didn't think much of it. After all, her mother was 68 then and petitions like these took forever to process. Who'd have thought that she'd still be around when things finally got moving?

The inevitable

In October 2003, Endaya received a letter stating that the petition to migrate had been approved, and that a visa would be processed. "Our number has come," she said. She remembered turning to husband Johnny and asking the inevitable: "What are we going to do there?" She threw the letter among a pile of magazines and newspapers bound for storage in the garage. When her siblings in the US followed up the petition and learned that Endaya had junked the letter, they were shocked. "Don't you realize how some people would do everything, even go underground, to get to the U.S. to work?" Why give up an opportunity that comes so rarely? they added.

The Endayas decided to consult their grownup children Indira, 32, Trinka, 28, and Marco, 24. Their consensus was: "*Sige*, Mama, why don't you have fun?" She thought it might not be such a bad idea. "In early 2004, I said, okay, we'll try it for a year. But I was torn with angst. I couldn't tell others that I would leave."

When a lawyer told her that the visa processing would only take six months, Endaya was shocked, confused and finally depressed. It took two years for her to overcome her attitude of initial resistance.

Friends were just as surprised and said, "What's that? It's a complete turnaround." She explained that she and Johnny, a consultant at the Board of Investments, were "retiring but at the same time starting anew." She's 55, she confessed. "When you look at my knees and hipbones, you can tell that I'm old, but I have a youthful feeling because I'm starting over again." The choice of New York as their new home has a lot to do with her wanting to be close to the city's vital art scene.

Before her departure, Endaya mounted a show, "Conversations with Juan Luna and Eight Filipinas" at Liongoren Gallery and Gateway at Araneta Center dedicated to the late painters Paz Paterno and Pacita Abad.

Taking off from Luna's "Spoliarium," a painting that is part of the canon of Philippine art, the artist practically tore apart her own print rendition of the painting. "It was a grand painting in the Romantic style," she described the original, "but it was outdated because by that time, Impressionism was the new movement. Luna's work was an allegory of the political state of the Philippines. It shows us being dragged to be fed to lions, to politicians and corrupt leaders."

No illusion

"Is that why you're leaving—because our country is one big Spoliarium?" writer Gilda Cordero Fernando had asked.

But Endaya would rather talk about the state of women's art-making. "Women artists work, but they're under no illusion that they're creating masterpieces," she said. "My show was an invitation to think about this subject of discourse. Take Paterno and her still-life paintings. Appreciation for her came later. I still have to study the works of our artistic ancestors like Nena Saguil, Anita Magsaysay Ho, Charito Bitanga. There were just a few of them then."

In printmaking, Endaya found a lot of women comrades, among them Brenda Fajardo, Ofelia Gelvezon Tequi, Florencia Mota, Evelyn Collantes and Petite Peredo. Some of them were not amused when art critic Leonidas Benesa compared their prints to the repetitiousness of housework. Endaya recalled, "It was no reason to get angry because it is partly true. Take me, for instance. I'm very patient about repetitious work."

She added, "Filipino feminism is different. One is not ashamed of motherhood and nurturing roles. You teach your sons and hopefully your husbands to cooperate in this role of nurturing." Endaya said she is happy that her children's careers are all linked to art. Indira, a freelance writer, also does multi-media projects with the deaf-mute at the College of St. Benilde. Trinka is in advertising while Marco is a freelance web designer. "It's really their choice. They like what they're doing," the mother said, beaming. The three are staying behind.

Conversing with works

Endaya's own artistic space is more flexible. She has always worked from the house, she said. "A room of one's own is all in your mind. I just move the furniture around for elbow room because my works come in big sizes." Some works extend from end to end of her sala or are as tall as 8 ½ feet, the height of her house. But these multimedia works that combine painting, sewing and collage are all collapsible.

Those who will miss Endaya the person can still view the works she is leaving behind. There is the triptych "*Pasyong Bayan*," a gift to the Metropolitan Museum. "*Bintana ni Momoy*," done in nipa and denim, was donated to the Ateneo Gallery. The National Museum bought her "*Sa Panambitan, Dalangin ay Kagitingan*" from a period when she was "full of inner rage during the time of the protest movement against the Marcos dictatorship." Businessman Charlie Cojuangco also bought two of Endaya's works to be shown at the new Balay Taliambong in Pontevedra, Negros Occidental.

Endaya's work for the 16-year-old organization Kasibulan (Kababaihan sa Sining at Bagong Sibol ng Kamalayan) will also be fondly remembered. She was one of the five founders along with Fajardo, Julie Lluch, Ana Fer and Ida Bugayong. Kasibulan has supported women in the arts by encouraging them to develop distinct female symbols. When Endaya headed it, she encouraged artists to talk because she found such discourse very empowering for women. "The tendency of the visual artist is to work in isolation. When you speak, you clarify the chaos within you. A structure is built because you have to articulate, you have to communicate within a group. The audience gains insights and is engaged in the dialogue," she said.

Recently Endaya unloaded her old books, mainly on art and philosophy, at Liongoren Gallery. It was for us a definite sign of her leaving, and we told her we were saddened while picking through the books that shaped her. She texted back, "Thanks for shopping. Don't be sad so I won't get sad. The world is small. Keep in touch."

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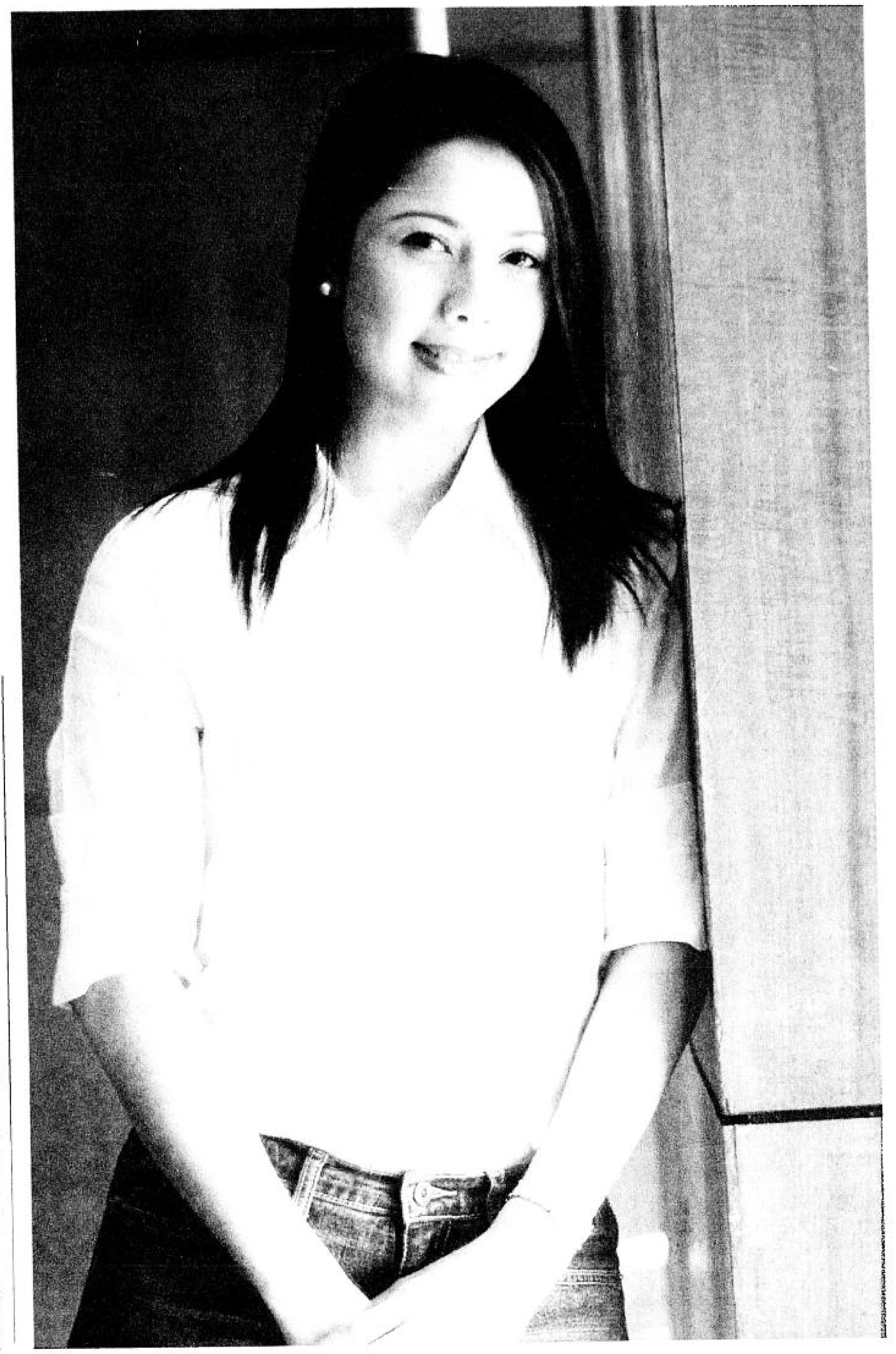
Music Makers

by Tinna S. Bonifacio
photographs by Romy Homillada

Samantha Chavez Rediscovers The Song Of Her Life



TALK about déjà vu. At the height of her career, singer Samantha Chavez decided to give it all up and get married. She wasn't pregnant, and there was no compelling reason for her sudden decision. It just felt like the right thing to do at the time.

Not even Kuh Ledesma, who discovered her, her manager Sandra Chavez, or the late Bella Tan of Universal Records, to whom Samantha was under contract, could stop her. Tan, who succumbed to cancer last month, said she understood why Sam wanted to quit: "It's something that will put stability in your life. So go. Do it."

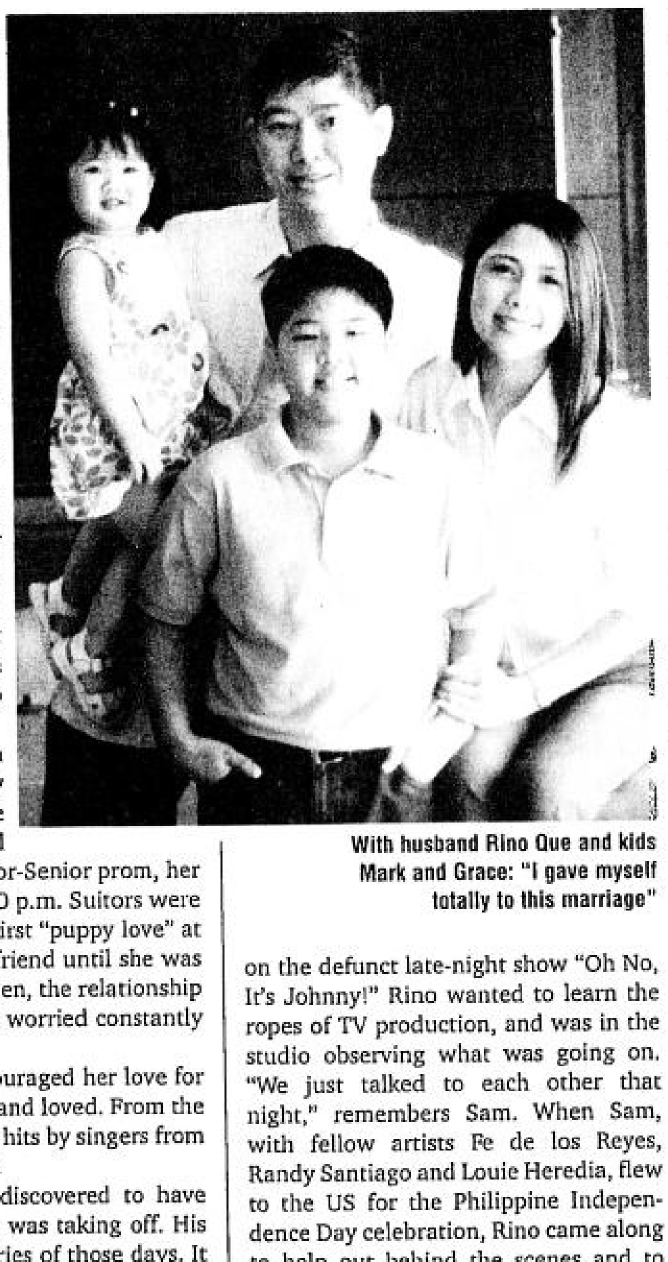
Now happily married to businessman Rino Que and mother to kids Mark, 7, and Grace, one and a half, Sam recently surprised friends and colleagues anew when she came out of her self-imposed retirement and announced the release of her new, self-titled CD.

But the bigger surprise is that Sam says she's not planning to stage a comeback. At this point, she adds, she's had her fill of the fame and fortune that a music career brings.

A protégé of Kuh who plucked her out of anonymity in the early '90s, Sam tasted fame briefly as a frontliner of the Metropolis Band and later, as a recording artist. She also represented the Philippines at the the Sixth International Midnight Sun Song Festival held in Lahti, Finland and the Seventh ASEAN Songfest in Jakarta, Indonesia where her rendition of "Love Is All We Need" won her the top prize.

Yearning inside

Thanks to her music, Sam got to travel the world.The money was good, too. But there was a yearning in her heart that couldn't be satisfied by any of these things. "Even as a child, I had always dreamt of having a peaceful life," says Sam. "I enjoyed singing and I loved the attention, but I was never really what you'd call a 'showbiz' person. *Basta pakantahin mo lang ako, masaya na ako.* (Make me sing and I'd be content). After my shows, I'd go straight home. That's why it wasn't hard for me to give it up. I had total peace in my heart about my decision."



With husband Rino Que and kids Mark and Grace: "I gave myself totally to this marriage"

The daughter of a military man, Sam remembers her childhood as being fun. It couldn't have been anything else, she being the youngest of 10 children, one of whom was former Solicitor-General Frank Chavez. Frank was the second from the eldest, but because of the huge gap in their ages and the fact that by the time Sam came of age, Frank was already in Manila practicing law, the two never had the opportunity to become really close. But she loves her brother and takes pride in his achievements, Sam is quick to add.

Being the baby of the family, Sam led a very sheltered existence. "Daddy was very protective," she recalls. She was never allowed to go on school field trips. On the night of Sam's Junior-Senior prom, her father insisted that she be home by 10 p.m. Suitors were also a no-no; although Sam had her first "puppy love" at 14, she didn't have her first real boyfriend until she was 21 (and already a singer) and even then, the relationship lasted a brief two weeks because she worried constantly about her father's reaction.

Yet it was also her father who encouraged her love for music and taught her songs he knew and loved. From the time she was six, Sam learned to sing hits by singers from the '50s and '60s like Connie Francis.

Unfortunately, Sam's father was discovered to have cancer of the liver just as her career was taking off. His death put a damper on Sam's memories of those days. It saddens her that her father never got the chance to meet her husband Rino, who, she is convinced, would have won his approval.

Sam and Rino met during one of Sam's TV guestings, on the defunct late-night show "Oh No, It's Johnny!" Rino wanted to learn the ropes of TV production, and was in the studio observing what was going on. "We just talked to each other that night," remembers Sam. When Sam, with fellow artists Fe de los Reyes, Randy Santiago and Louie Heredia, flew to the US for the Philippine Independence Day celebration, Rino came along to help out behind the scenes and to drive Sam and her friends around.

Same dedication

For the wish to have a family, this promising young singer walked away from a bright career. Now she wants to give it another try, with a higher purpose

When they got married in 1995, Sam had no regrets about giving up the career she'd worked so hard for. She took on the role of wife and mother with the same kind of dedication that she'd given to her singing. "I'm very focused. When I was in showbiz, I gave it my whole heart. When I got married, it was the same. I gave myself totally to the marriage, because I knew this was what God wanted for me," says Sam, who'd been a born-again Christian since her high school days.

There was a time when she wanted to go back to full-time singing but only, she says, to make sure that she wouldn't end up blaming her husband if she felt miserable about her decision. "I didn't want to have any regrets or blame Rino later on."

She accepted a show sponsored by a major softdrink brand, but found that it just didn't bring her the same joy that it used to. God had begun changing Sam from the inside out.

Ironically, or maybe just as God had planned from the start, Sam is back where she started. With her newly-released CD, she is singing again, but this time, with a different song in her heart.

The 12-track CD, produced by Marquee Entertainment—a company co-owned by Sam and Rino with composer Jungee Marcelo—contains inspirational songs, including "Thank You, Lord," "Your Love Is Sufficient," "Tears," "Trust the Rainbow" (written by Joey Benin of the Side A band), and "Beyond Forever." There is also a song titled "You Are The Love of God," which Sam wrote for her mother and which features her son Mark on backing vocals.

Not for profit

But as Sam insisted, the CD is not meant to be her ticket to a comeback. She is being managed by Manila Genesis Entertainment and Management, but she no longer sings for profit. "Our thrust and dream here is to bring more positive music to the industry," explains Sam. "We want to come up with songs that are positive. I feel it's my duty as a singer, especially since God gave me this name and talent, and I want to use it for His glory."

These days, aside from promoting the album, Sam is kept busy singing in churches and evangelical events. "I want to inspire, not just entertain."

In fact, Rino and Sam—through the Partners in Christ Foundation they put up when they got married—are donating part of their earnings from the album to church-building projects and those that benefit streetchilden and old people.

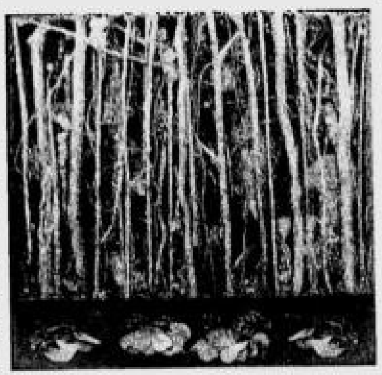
The real reward of singing this time, says Sam, is changing people's lives. "There was this woman who told us how she's been blessed by the songs on the album. The CD was the turning point for her."

And that's what she wants to do—save one soul at a time, says Sam. "In a world filled with hate and hopelessness, I want to be God's instrument to bring people back," she says. "I want to allow God to work through me so people will say, 'Wow, *may Diyos pala!* (There is a God!)'"

This Week

Art

Actor's Actors Inc.'s (AAI) **Once On This Island** will have performances on May 29, at 3 and 8 p.m., at the Carlos P. Romulo Theater, 4th Podium, RCBC Plaza, Ayala Ave. cor. Gil Puyat Ave. Tickets are available at TicketWorld, tel. 891-9999.


Alfredo Juan Aquilizan's "*Landscape Painting (...Under The Viridian Sky*)," on view at Galleria Duemila

In **Maquiling: Revisited**, Alfredo Juan Aquilizan looks back at a place he called home for over 10 years. The exhibit will run from June 1 to 28 at the Galleria Duemila, 4/L SM Megamall Bldg. A, Ortigas Complex, Mandaluyong City. Contact Imelda or Vicky Asas at 634-3261 or 831-9990, telefax 633-6687 and 634-3261, e-mail Duemila@info.com.ph or Duemila@mydestiny.net, or visit www.galleriaduemila.com.

The Japan Foundation, Manila, and Ayala-Greenbelt Malls present the **8th Asian Cartoon Exhibition: The Meaning of Life**, June 3-10, 10 a.m.-10 p.m., at the Ground Lobby of Greenbelt 3, Ayala Center, Makati City. The traveling exhibit will showcase 88 works produced by 13 leading cartoonists from China, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, Myanmar, Singapore, Vietnam, Thailand and the Philippines. Contact the Japan Foundation, Manila, at 811-6155 to 58, or log-on to www.jfmo.org.ph.

Music

The students of the **Ana Emata School of Classical Ballet** will perform at the Concert at the Park, May 29, 6 p.m., at the Rizal Park Open-Air Auditorium, Manila. Admission is free.

Paco Park Presents features soprano Vanessa Rayel, with guitarist Eddie Suarez, in ***Kung Hindi Man Kundiman*** on June 3, 6 p.m., at the Paco Park, San Marcelino, Manila. Admission is free.

Soprano Alexis Edralin performs at the Philamlife Auditorium

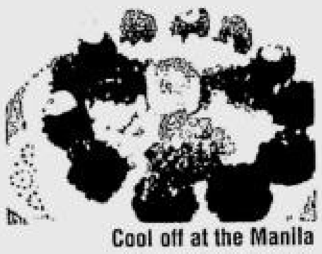
Alexis Edralin will hold her first major concert, **Alexis Edralin: A Young Soprano**, at the Philamlife Auditorium in Manila on June 2, 8 p.m. For ticket inquiries, reservations and block buying, call Audience Builders through Cherrybong Edralin at 789-8554 and 0920-8688129, or e-mail audiencebuilders@yahoo.com. Tickets are also available at TicketWorld outlets, tel. 891-9999.

Cinema

Euro Pink Night at the Pink Festival (Philippine International Gay and Lesbian Film Festival), features thought-provoking films from Europe on June 1-7 at the Gateway, Cubao, Quezon City. Reservations and season's passes will soon be made available. Corporate sponsorships and provincial bookings are now being accepted. For information, call Mowelfund Film Institute at 410-4567, 727-1915 loc. 203, or 367-3109. Visit website at www.pinkfilmfest.cjb.net or e-mail progay@yahoo.com

Onstage

Powerdance, the country's premier modern and jazz company, will hold its annual recital for its summer workshop on May 30, 7:30 p.m., titled, **Pinoy Powerdance Fiesta**, at the AFP Theater, Camp Aguinaldo. Powerdance Studio is located at 2/F carpark of Shopwise Araneta Center in Cubao, tel. 995-8287.


Cool off at the Manila Pavilion's Halo-Halo Summer Splash

Gantimpala Theater Foundation, in cooperation with the National Parks Development Committee, holds audition for the productions of its 28th season, slated on June 2, 5 p.m., and June 3, 7 p.m., at the Rehearsal Hall of the Concert at the Part Auditorium, Luneta, Manila. Lead, supporting and ensemble parts are up for grabs. Audition is open to male and female actors, ages 18-40 years, with pleasing personalities and fluent in Filipino. Interested parties must bring a 2x2 colored photo and resumé highlighting their theater and other professional experiences. Call Alwin M. Ignacio at 528-0603 or 526-5860.

Food

Take pleasure in Manila Pavilion Hotel's halo-halo pastry version, **Halo-Halo Summer Splash**, made up of flavored mousse topped with local sweets and jam, available only until May 31. Each slice is priced at P75, a whole piece is at P750. Call the Manila Pavilion Hotel at 526-1212 ext. 2326.

Peninsula Exclusivités mounts **Mangia! Deliciously Italian** in celebration of Italian liberation. Participants may take home bite-sized portions of the very best of Italy's produce. The festival runs until June 2 at The Lower Lobby Shopping Arcade. Call The Peninsula Manila at 887-2888 ext. 2968, or call direct 887-5747.

Atbp

Shop@Le Pavillion showcases bargain finds from the country's top exporters on May 29, 9 a.m.-7 p.m., at Le Pavillion, Metropolitan Park, Roxas Blvd., Manila, The bazaar accepts local and international credit cards.

MB&G/ProActive is now accepting reservations for the **Managing a Restaurant/Canteen Seminar-Workshop** on May 30-June 3, 1-5 p.m., at Eastwood City, Libis, Quezon City. Call Manu Ofiaza at 687-1787 or 0915-4315375. Seminar fee is P5,000 per participant, inclusive of manual, handouts, snacks, certificate of completion and workshop materials and equipment. Reservations will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis.

The Filipinas Heritage Library will be hosting **Walking and Writing: Travel Writing Workshop** on May 31, June 7, 14 and 21, 6-8:30 p.m. Traveler and writer Kristine D. Fonacier will facilitate this unique and interesting workshop on, not just travel writing, but travel and writing. Fee is at P2,500, inclusive of materials and certificates. Call 892-1802 or e-mail events@fillib.org.ph. The Filipinas Heritage Library is across Peninsula Manila along Makati Avenue.

Join Ivan Man Dy as he takes visitors to discover the culinary and historical delights of Chinatown on June 4 in **The Big Binondo Food Bowl**. Meet inside the Binondo Church at 1 p.m. Slots are limited. Tickets are P650 per head. Text 0917- 329-1622 or e-mail oldmanilawalks@gmail.com for reservations. Also check out www.oldmanilawalks.blogspot.com for details.

Tanglaw Sining, a series of community art workshops for children and youth, will include the following courses: Visual Arts (basic drawing/sketching, painting, and terra cotta sculpting), Performance Arts (basic theatre arts and free movement - dance), Literature (creative writing and story-telling), and Arts and Crafts (jewelry-making, paper-making and beadwork). Donations in the form of cash or resource materials that can be used for this project (used canvasses, paintbrushes, pencils, crayons/paints/colored pencils, used paper, etc.) are welcome, as well as volunteer services in helping with the preparations and implementation of this project. For more information about Tanglaw Sining, please write to fullhouse_spca@yahoo.com or call 927-0866.

X-manila

The **IFJ Journalism for Tolerance Prize for East and South East Asia** is an annual competition among journalists from all sectors of media aiming to promote better understanding among journalists of the importance of tolerance and defense of human rights, particularly in reporting on minorities. Categories include: print/online (including photography), broadcast radio and television. Winners and finalists will receive a certificate of recognition. Entry forms are available from IFJ Asia-Pacific, journalists' organizations in East and South East Asia, or online at www.ifj-asia.org. Entry is free and will close on May 31. Entries may be in English, Bahasa, Tagalog, Thai, Khmer, Chinese script, Korean and Japanese. Entries must have been published/broadcast between January 1 and December 31, 2004. For details, visit www.ifj-asia.org, contact Lara Hook at +61293330919, or e-mail ifj@ifj-asia.org. Send entries clearly marked "IFJ Journalism for Tolerance Prize" to IFJ ESEA Journalism For Tolerance Prize, c/o Allansi Jurnalis Independen (AJI), JL. Danau Poso no. 29 Blok D.1, Bendungan Hilir, Jakarta Pusat 10210, Indonesia.

Kids take to the stage at Pinoy Powerdance Fiesta at the AFP Theater

For this week's bands and schedules call:

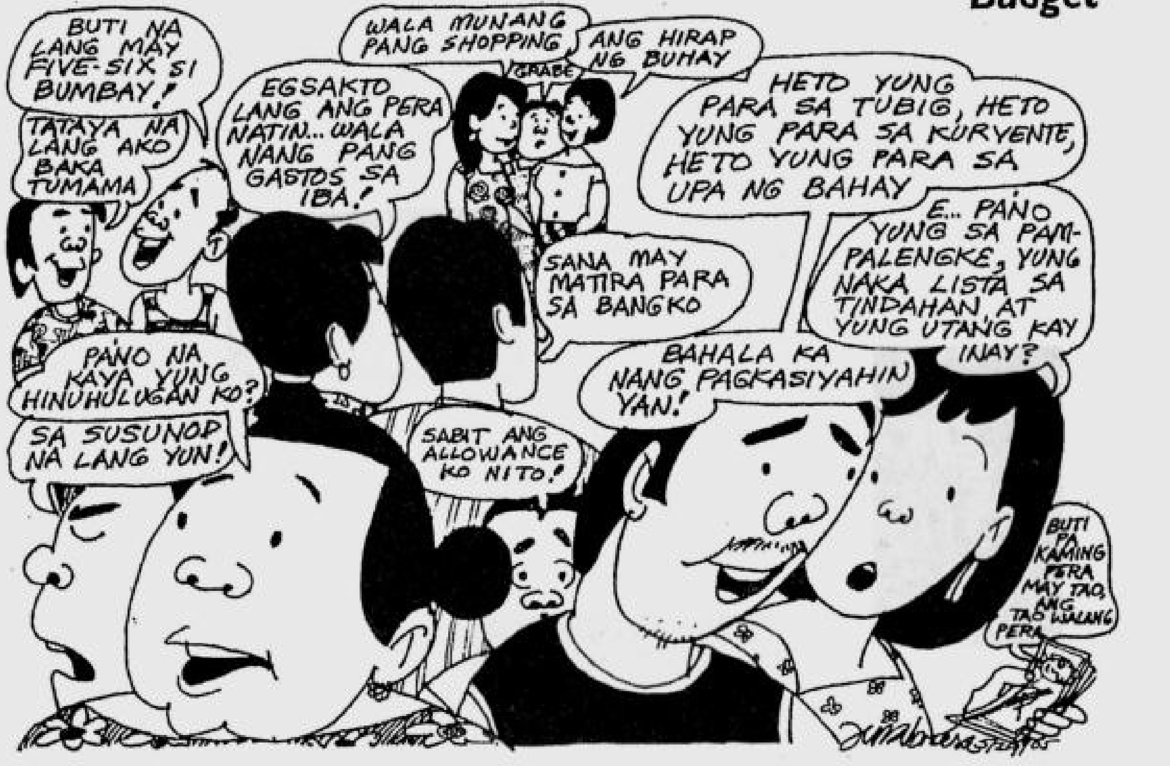
- Hard Rock Café (893-4662-65)
- Virgin Café : QC (926-7982)
- '70s Bistro: 46 Anonas St., QC (922-0492)
- Hobbit House: 1801 Mabini St., Malate, Manila (521-7604)
- Strumm's: El Pueblo, Ortigas (637-3009)

The Sunday Inquirer Magazine welcomes listings of events in and outside Metro Manila. Please send announcements at least two weeks in advance, and include contact numbers for inquiries on schedules

Pinoy Nga!

Jess Abrera

Budget


BUTI NA LANG MAY FIVE-SIX SI BUMBAY!
TATAYA NA LANG AKO BAKA TUMAMA
EGSAKTO LANG ANG PERA NATIN... WALA NANG PANG GASTOS SA IBA!
WALA MUNANG PANG SHOPPING
GRABE
ANG HIRAP NG BUHAY
HETO YUNG PARA SA TUBIG, HETO YUNG PARA SA KURYENTE, HETO YUNG PARA SA UPA NG BAHAY
E.. PANO YUNG SA PAMPALENGKE, YUNG NAKA LISTA SA TINDAHAN AT YUNG UTANG KAY INAY?
SANA MAY MATIRA PARA SA BANGKO
PANO NA KAYA YUNG HINUHULUGAN KO?
SA SUSUNOD NA LANG YUN!
SABIT ANG ALLOWANCE KO NITO!
BAHALA KA NANG PAGKASIYAHIN YAN!
BUTI PA KAMING PERA MAY TAO, ANG TAO WALANG PERA

Leader...*from page 4*

Los Angeles to visit a sister. But a bomb threat forced closure of the airport to all vehicles except police cars. The terminal had to be cleared, and Say found himself cooling his heels for three-and-a-half hours on the sidewalk.

He was glad he had his Blackberry. Because there was no protocol between Chile and the Philippines, he had no access to his e-mail messages for the past three days. He was able to access them in the U.S., while waiting for his pick-up car. "There were over 400!" Today, Say gets anywhere from 50 to 80 messages a day on his Blackberry.

Seeing his ascendancy to the top BSP post fast approaching, he is elated at the thought of being given the "opportunity to make a contribution" to easing the economic burden of his fellow Filipinos.

"That is the best part of the job. Almost all my professional life, I've been in central banking. I've seen different phases in the history of our economy and the banking system. The 1983 financial crisis was quite memorable. We had very little in foreign exchange reserves; we declared a moratorium ..."

At the end of it, the country weathered the crisis. It was probably also then that Say's star began to shine in the international financial firmament whose workhorse subcommittee members could now be the top guns in their organizations. Having dealt with Say before, they very likely put in a good word for him in the selection process. As did outgoing BSP Gov. Rafael Buenaventura, sources stress.

Competence, intelligence, integrity, experience, leadership: those traits certainly worked well for Say. "Do not underestimate him," someone close to him warns. "He does not call attention to himself. He is quiet, but when he speaks, everybody listens. He is a leader."

Meantime, Say hies off to the golf course on Saturday afternoons with his buddies who include Omar Cruz, national treasurer. There at the Orchard, he says, "the best part is sitting around after the game and teasing each other. We use a computer to calculate our scores."

There are many variations on where the winnings should go. The support staff on the course is a beneficiary. "We have a system. If you win, you're taxed 10 percent for the waiters and the bag boys. If you win more than a certain amount, you're charged an extra 20 percent for the Christmas fund of the office staff of the golf course..."

Started "two to three-and-a-half years ago," only three originally made up the group. Expect it to balloon during Say's stint as BSP governor as more and more people try to get his ear.

He has simplified the task at hand to the BSP's mandate: First is to maintain price stability, and second, to maintain a sound banking system.

"Mine is a feeling of great anticipation," he says. "You know your responsibilities. You don't have to reinvent the wheel, though the environment in which you try to achieve your objectives keeps changing.

"If you just stick to the mandate provided in the law, you can provide a better life for people. So long as you stick to that, you'll be okay."

Meanwhile, the country waits. July is just around the corner.

Francis...*from page 2*

the opportunity." Christine now runs her own music school for children in Quezon City, and the couple makes their home in a humble townhouse.

When he's not working, Escudero is likely to be at a friend's shop tinkering with old cars—he's the proud owner of a 1969 Mister Slim two-door top-down Mercedes and a 1987 Range Rover—or at the firing range with his .45 caliber guns. "I like shooting. I would want to compete someday. As for old cars, it's part of the thrill, not knowing whether or not you'll get to your destination!" Private time means "not being bothered by this gadget"—he holds up his cellphone in mock disgust—"and that means traveling." He and Christine were in Thailand last Holy Week, where Escudero rode his first elephant. Although he bikes to the gym, the lanky Bicolano is an avowed carnivore who wolfs down *inasal*, *adobo*, *tinola* and crispy *pata*, excesses which haven't taken their toll—"My last executive check-up was perfect"—and which don't show when he's in his usual tight-fitting sport shirt and jeans. "If I can get away with not wearing a *barong*, I will, even if I'm sometimes accused of not giving respect to an occasion because I'm not in formal wear." Oh, and the glasses he now wears are just shades—"*pa*-cute," he reveals—as he just got his near-sighted eyes lasered.

Left of center

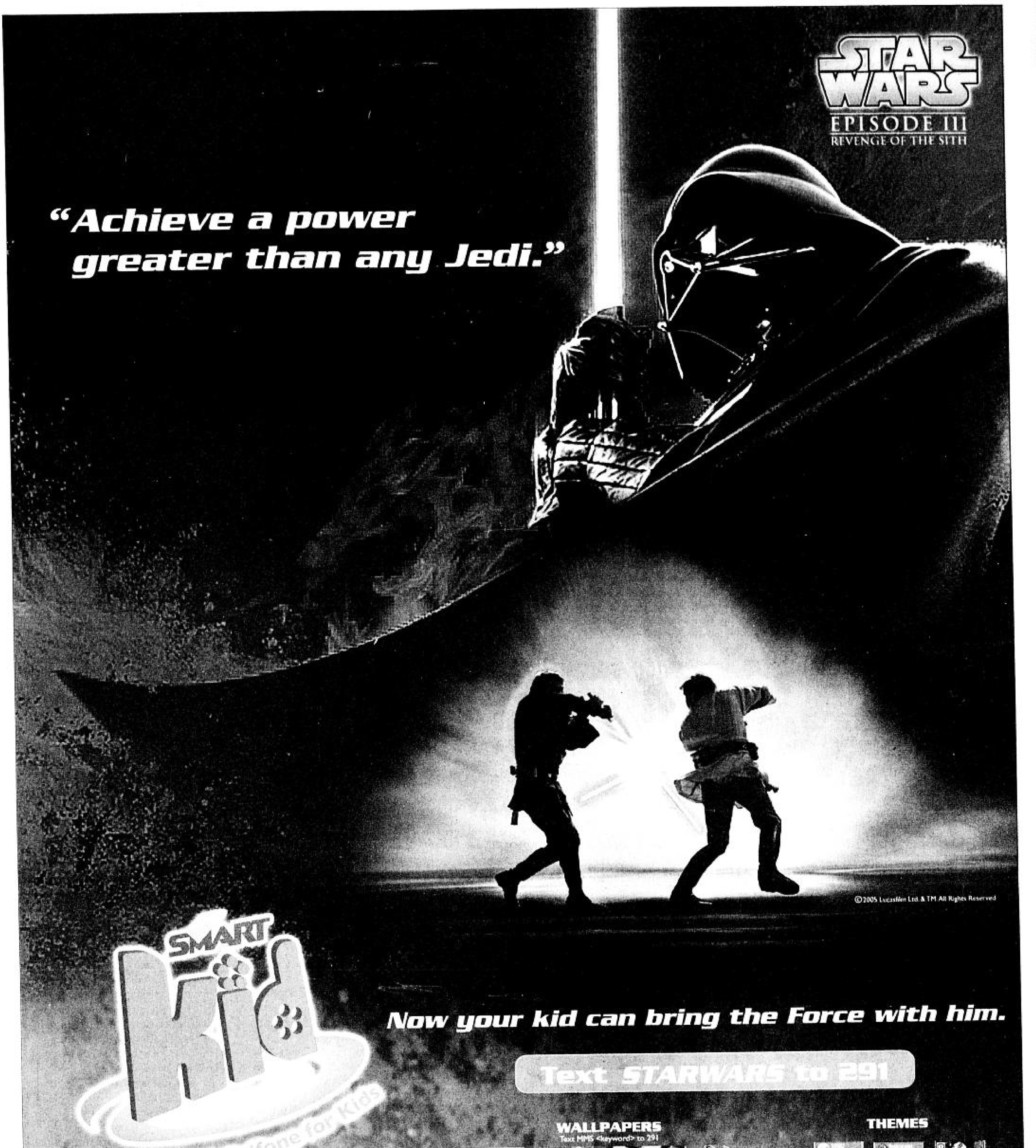
Female fans didn't seem to mind even the glasses, as Escudero often gets recognized when he's occasionally driving himself around with his single bodyguard. "It's ego-boosting, flattering, but that's as far as it will get, as I'm too scared to bring it a step further. Just thinking about getting into trouble gives me a headache. Seriously—but only because there's a tape recorder on," he laughs again.

Does he really want to become president? "A barangay captain who says he doesn't think about it is lying through his teeth. Should it come, I won't shirk from that responsibility, I'm not afraid of it. Do I aspire for it? At the proper time perhaps. Do I want to be? That's why my then fraternity brods beat the hell out of me. I had the gall to say I wanted to become President!" The interesting part is, Escudero views his own politics as left of center. "Regardless of what the Left says, or how they've been branded, they're the ones with a truly clear-cut platform based on patriotism and nationalism. Nobody seems to be espousing that kind of idea in government." So where did the rightist perception come from? "Well, I'm a reserve in the Philippine Navy," he says with a smile. "If you say I'm demanding more government intervention, yes, I am. Is that rightist? Not necessarily. The basic question is, if you were in control, how would you run the zoo?"

And how would Chiz Escudero run the zoo? "The root of our problem is money. Ask for a debt moratorium. A moratorium for five years is P500 billion in free money, breathing space, and would solve a lot of problems as far as basic needs are concerned. PAGCOR should be abolished, PCSO should be abolished or reoriented, address corruption in the BIR and Customs..." He goes on before putting out a final cigarette, then smiles before speaking slowly, pointedly. "And as President, do not steal."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

At home on the range: Escudero wants to shoot competitively one day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